

Environmental Advisory Council

September 12, 2023– 7:00 PM

Hybrid Meeting

MINUTES

Members in attendance: Eric Allen (Chair), Christy Cheever (Vice Chair), Shannon Pendleton, Phil Getty, Scott Blank, Louise Levy, Hope Blaythorne, John Francis (Board Supervisor), Debra McFadden (Administrator), and Kate Robeson-Grubb (Administrator).

Absent: Barry Fetterolf, Jeanne Litwin, Tim Marsh.

- I. Call to Order:
 - a. Mr. Allen called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.
- II. Approval of the July 2023 and August 2023 Meeting Minutes
 - a. **Deferred approval of Minutes from July 2023 and August 2023 meetings until next meeting on October 10, 2023.**
- III. Announcements
 - a. Mr. Allen mentioned that he will not be attending the next meeting on October 10, 2023—therefore, Ms. Cheever will act as Chair.
- IV. New Business
 - a. Mr. Allen mentions that the Board of Supervisors requested an EAC member be appointed to the Comprehensive Plan Committee—Mr. Allen expresses his interest in being that appointee.
 - Mr. Getty also expresses interest in working with Mr. Allen on this point.

MOTION: Upon a motion by Ms. Cheever, and seconded by Ms. Pendleton, it was endorsed by the Environmental Advisory Council to appoint Mr. Allen, EAC Chair, to the Solebury Township Comprehensive Plan Committee. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

- V. Discussion Items
 - a. Sustainability
 - Ms. Pendleton describes the Sustainability Sub Committee (SSC) meeting that took place on August 25, 2023, with updates on protocol for recruiting new members. Ms. Pendleton also provided the date and time for the upcoming Bucks County Municipal Quarterly Sustainability

Dialogue: September 28, 2023.

- b. Social Media
 - No updates.
- c. Recycling & Trash
 - Members recount their August visit to the Waste Management Recycling Facility located in Philadelphia, PA, and discuss considerations as they pertain to municipal solid waste management, the recycling process, and working conditions for plant staff. Ms. Pendleton recommends that members and others review Ms. Litwin's provided summary and resources.
 - Mr. Blank provides updates on Single-Hauler Project including status of request for bids and provided a draft ordinance pertaining to HOA's in this regard. Mr. Blank expresses the need for Single-Hauler Project FAQ's to be posted on website, as well as the need for information to be collected from HOA's within the Township. Extensive discussion ensues.

MOTION: Upon a motion by Mr. Blank, and seconded by Mr. Getty, it was endorsed by the Environmental Advisory Council to request that the Board of Supervisors consider posting the FAQ's regarding the Single-Hauler Project that were distributed in August 2023, to the Township website. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

MOTION: Upon a motion by Mr. Blank, and seconded by Mr. Getty, it was endorsed by the Environmental Advisory Council to authorize Scott Blank to work with Solebury Township Manager, Mr. Garges, in order to prepare a letter to be sent to HOA communities requesting information. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

- d. Wild Area Stewardship/ Tree City/ Birdtown
 - Ms. Blaythorne provides updates regarding Tree City and Birdtown. Solebury received a five-hundred dollar grant award from Birdtown—to be used for Bird Sketching event on October 15, 2023. Ms. Blaythorne also discusses the use of native species in the replacing of felled trees, and the presence of invasive plant species in the Township.
- e. DarkSky
 - Ms. Cheever discusses the need for a revised or upgraded lighting ordinance—suggests reviewing Buckingham Township lighting ordinance and/or DarkSky model ordinance (darksky.org) in order to reduce and/or prevent light pollution in the Township. Discussion ensues, and it is recommended to consult Township Solicitor.

MOTION: Upon a motion by Ms. Cheever and seconded by Mr. Getty, it was endorsed by the Environmental Advisory Council to request a model lighting ordinance be prepared by the Township Solicitor with review of lighting ordinances from Buckingham Township and DarkSky. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

f. Air Quality Ordinance

- Ms. Levy relays the results of her correspondence with PA DEP staff regarding air quality measuring and the Township's designation as an Air Basin. Discussion regarding the burning of residential waste and relevant PA DEP regulations ensues. Recommendation to educate residents on the consequences of burning.

g. Miscellaneous

- Mr. Getty indicated that there was no update to the Nockamixon Hydro Ordinance.

VI. Public Comment

- a. Adrianna Gains expresses concern regarding the use of glyphosate (Roundup) at Aquetong Spring Park.
- b. Lisa Menz (resident) expresses concern regarding the use on non-native tree species on Township-owned property.

VII. Adjournment

- a. Eric Allen adjourned the meeting at 8:44pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Kate Robeson-Grubb