UPPER GWYNEDD TOWNSHIP



ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

EAC MEETING MINUTES

February 1, 2023 6:00 pm

1. Call to Order

The February 1, 2023 meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm with the following individuals in attendance. This meeting was held in person.

Jon West	Chair
Joanne Walker	Secretary
Scott McCartney	Member
Tom Alvarez	Associate Member
Denise Hull	Commissioner
Megan Weaver	Assistant Township Manager
Deanna Logan	Administrative Assistant

Commissioner Martha Simelaro was absent.

Present from the public; Walt Psculkowski and John Tierney.

2. Minutes of January 4, 2023

Upon motion of Mrs. Walker seconded by Mr. McCartney the meeting minutes of January 4, 2023 were approved unanimously.

3. Old Business

- a. Initiatives
 - i. Environmental Education/Outreach
 - PECO Energy Audit March 25, 2023, 10 am 12 pm

Mr. McCartney contacted PECO for scheduling. PECO will do a presentation with Q&A and handouts. A discussion ensued regarding having residents sign up to attend the event. The committee decided to advertise as space is limited, registration is encouraged. Advertising will be through social media, the Library, the Gazette. Mr. McCartney will do a write up for the ad and will send to Ms. Weaver. April 1st is the snow day. EAC will set up a table for the day to talk about upcoming events.

- ii. Renewable Energy, Resiliency and Sustainability Task Force
 - Task Force is looking for an ordinance with a focus on renewable energy to put before the BOC
 - Ready for 100 presentation at the Planning Commission Meeting on February 8th. Bill Sabie and the Plymouth EAC will present. 18 municipalities in Montgomery County have passed the Ready for 100 Resolution.

- iii. Natural Resources and Open Space
- iv. Arbor Day Saturday, April 29th 9 am 12 pm at the Pavilion

The tree order list includes approximately 200 trees and shrubs. Blueberries will be given out in pairs for cross pollination. A maximum of 3 trees/shrubs per resident will be distributed.

Advertising

Tom will create a flyer for the available plants for the giveaway. Information is due to Megan by mid-February.

Boy Scouts participation

Mr. West reviewed the help that is needed for the Arbor Day Event: bagging mulch, tying snow fences around trees and helping residents load their cars with trees and mulch. Mr. Psculkowski said the Scouts can commit for service hours (9-12 pm) the day of the event. The Scouts are unable to commit to the snow fences, but can help with bagging mulch in advance. Ms. Weaver will check with Mrs. Prebis about bagging all the mulch. Mr. West mentioned the Scouts may want to do a tree planting with any leftover trees. Mr. Psculkowski will try to see if there is a merit badge associated with the tree planting. This is possible participation for Unity Day from the Scouts and they may be interested in having a table at the event.

- Final Planning
- b. Tree City ordinance
 - Reviewed by PRC

The PRC agreed with all the comments and expressed concern about the heritage trees in the Ordinance. Marley Bice of the MCPC will review our ordinances for updating and will again review the Tree City Ordinance before it gets updated by our Solicitor.

- c. Pesticide/herbicide use in public spaces Memo
 - Final review of comments

Mr. West submitted comments for the memo and Mr. McCartney updated and included them. He will follow up with Mrs. Prebis about any specific language that needs to be added to identify spraying areas that are near streams or leave the language generic. Regional Plastic Bag Ban

Survey

The EAC will be soliciting businesses to take the survey. Mr. McCartney went out and said CVS may have to send it to corporate, Dunkin may do the survey, Royal Farms will let management know and Pizza Time Saloon only used paper.

Doylestown Borough has advertised their plastic bag ban ordinance. Montgomery Township is getting ready to release a survey and may want to do a joint presentation/meeting with the clean air organization. Mr. West said UGT could host the joint meeting and invite Montgomery, Lansdale, North Penn, Hatfield, Towamencin EAC's.

4. New Business

a. 2 Vacancies - update

One vacancy will be filled by Sherry Chen with one still outstanding.

b. WeConservePA grant application

The grant was submitted by Mrs. Walker and we should hear something by mid-February if the grant was approved.

5. Assistant Township Manager's Report

Ms. Weaver commented on the pool drainage issue. She spoke with Mrs. Oldt and the pool was drained in the fall a few inches to repair a leak, but it is not a common occurrence. The water was not chlorinated at the time of the release. Mrs. Hull suggested that Nor-Gwyn Pool notify Mrs. Prebis if that ever happens again. Ms. Weaver also reported the Township has been having issues with Bamboo enforcement and information will be going out shortly to Township residents about bamboo.

6. Upcoming Workshops and Events

Upper Dublin Open House on March 4th at their library

EAC Network Conference on February 25

Spring Classes for Penn State Master Watershed Stewards – Zoom via Wednesday evenings beginning March 8 and ends in June

Wissahickon Trails Maple Sugaring Event on Sunday, March 1st at Penllyn Woods

Some future workshops to consider:

- Watershed friendly property program workshop
- Workshop on trash and recycling

Mr. West asked about the e-recycling drop off. Ms. Weaver said the Township that has it, does have issues with people dumping outside the bin when it is full and they are responsible for the disposal of those items The dumpster fee is \$2000, and PAR would dump it once per week. The Township is still looking into it as it is a big commitment.

7. Adjournment

Mrs. Walker made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mr. McCartney and adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Next Meeting March 1, 2023 @ 6 pm in Boardroom B