

**EAST BRADFORD TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
January 23, 2023**

The East Bradford Township Environmental Advisory Council convened on Monday, January 23, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the township building, 676 Copeland School Road, West Chester, PA 19380. The agenda was posted on the front door of the township building and on the Township website at <https://www.eastbradford.org> as required by the Sunshine Law.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Brooke Davis
Kathy Bergmann
Rhona Klein
Paul Lewis
Paul Lucot
Ed McConnell
Maura Sheehan

STAFF/ BOARD PRESENT: Mark Lucas

MEMBERS/STAFF NOT PRESENT: Bruce Laverty

CALL TO ORDER: At 7:02 pm, the EAC meeting was called to order by Brooke Davis.

MINUTES

Kathy Bergmann made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 28, 2022, regular meeting. Maura Sheehan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

ELECTION OF CHAIR/ VICE CHAIR FOR 2023

Kathy Bergmann made the motion to nominate Brooke Davis for Chair. Maura seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Brooke accepted the nomination and will serve a second year as Chair. Kathy Bergmann nominated Paul Lucot as Vice Chair. Paul Lewis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Paul Lucot is also serving a second term as Vice Chair.

DEVELOPMENT REVIEWS AND UPDATES

SD# 632- Darlington Ridge- will dedicate the pump station in the Spring and then the Township will sell it to Aqua. The Township is developing a punch list of problems to be corrected before project completion. The HOA is creating their own punch list and will share it with the Township. The HOA is converting all mowed areas that were supposed to be meadows per the landscape plan back to meadow. The HOA would like to have Toll plant a meadow/pollinator seed mix when they convert the stormwater basins to drainage basins.

SD# 641- West Chester Crossings- Construction and sales continue.

SD# 655- Starr Farm- complete

TRASH TALKING/ SINGLE USE PLASTICS –

Maura Sheehan attended on December 7, 2022, the zoom meeting for the Montgomery County Single Use Plastics Coalition. They discussed keeping a narrow focus to the plastics ban to reduce the risk of sinking the ordinance. East Bradford was concerned with enforcement of the plastic bag ban once it was in effect. Lower Merion has a link on their website to report issues and violations helping with enforcement. Maura presented information from their PowerPoint presentation on compostable trash bags. Compostable bags are 3-4 times the cost of a traditional plastic trash bag.

PennEnvironment has been working with Townships in PA on their plastic bag ban ordinances. Easttown and Tredyffrin Townships are the most recent to pass ordinances. Most ordinances are fee based. The weight of plastics eliminated is by these bans is estimated at 956 tons/year.

In December, the Strategic Electric Vehicle Act was passed which advances recycling of EV batteries. This is important with the shortages of certain rare elements used in batteries.

ENERGY-

Ed McConnell said that there have been no updates on the Community Engagement. The EAC reviewed the revised newsletter article written by Ed on saving energy and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) tax credits. The website: <https://www.rewiringamerica.org/app/ira-calculator> gives a great summary and calculation of savings for a household with the rebates/tax credits available with the IRA. Ed will discuss with Mandie submitting this article for the upcoming newsletter. The format and size may need to be modified. Also, we should post the article and the calculator website in the energy section of the Township website and on Facebook.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Maura Sheehan created a spreadsheet with the information we provided on our review of our assigned pages from the Climate Resilience Toolkit. The spreadsheet contains website title, the hyperlink, a short description, a long description, the groups who could use the website and the reviewer's comments. Each reviewer prioritized their websites and Maura further sorted these according to their priority. Maura will sort all the first priorities for use by Staff, the EAC, Utilities and Park and Rec. We will review at the next meeting and decide how to communicate these tools to the potential users. The app on heat stroke could be very beneficial to park users/coaches. The information on Lyme disease could be important for anyone spending time outdoors. Perhaps we could submit a newsletter article with this information/links for the Spring newsletter.

COMPREHENSIVE ZONING ORDINANCE REVIEW

The Township Planning Commission and representatives from the Chester County Planning Commission CCPC are working on a comprehensive ordinance review/revision. Each month the PC will discuss sections of the ordinances and recommended changes. So far, the revisions seem minor and mostly just format changes. Kathy Bergmann expressed concern over the definition of base flood. The definition of base flood is a flood which has a one percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in a given year (also called the one-hundred-year flood). Given climate change and the intensity and frequency of storms this term is very inaccurate and misleading. We are having these 100 year storms every year or two. These terms should not be used for any stormwater calculations or be used to determine whether an area is out of flooding danger.

INVASIVE SPECIES & VECTORS

Deer Management: the deer harvest is at 41 deer with 1 Saturday left in the season. Mark estimates another 1-2 deer killed. Mark is tasked with finding ways to further increase the harvest and will present recommendations in the Spring.

Spotted Lanternfly- no new information.

REVIEW OF ABC MINUTES

- Board of Supervisor- Maura Sheehan
- Planning Commission- Paul Lewis
- Trails- Rhona Klein
- Historical Commission- Brooke Davis
- Parks and Rec- Paul Lucot
- Traffic Commission- Kathy Bergmann

ROUNDTABLE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Maura Sheehan attended a historical walk done by Rich Phifer. She was impressed by the information and recommended others join in the next walk. The Township has hired a new land manager to deal with the properties.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE EAC: There will be no work session and the next regular meeting will be February 27, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT: Rhona Klein made a motion to adjourn, and Paul Lucot seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brooke Davis