

**Towamencin Township
Environmental Advisory Council
Minutes of the August 8, 2023 Meeting**

Present: Donna Hegge
Amy Mawby
Brett MacKay
Joyce Snyder, Board of Supervisors Liaison
Rory Kelley
Vanessa Gaynor

Absent: Joseph (Joe) Meehan

Guests / Public at large:

Doug, resident
Richard Costlow, resident
Kris Kazmar, resident
Maria Law, resident

1. Call to order

2. Opening comments

3. Approve July Minutes

Approved unanimously

4. Public Comments

Doug is a resident of the township and recently noticed public works spraying herbicide along curbs in his neighborhood. Supervisor Snyder indicated she would follow up with the administration to confirm that they were being sprayed only as necessary to maintain storm sewer integrity and under proper use.

5. Old Business

a. EAC opening

There are still 4 candidates for the EAC opening, with a vote expected the next evening, August 9, 2023. Regardless of outcome, the public is always welcome to attend EAC meetings. In keeping that spirit, Rory Kelley asked the township administrator to invite all candidates to the meeting this evening. The Board of Supervisors may consider adding "Associate Members" to the EAC. Associate members can take minutes but cannot vote.

b. PECO Energy Audits

Amy Mawby is obtaining the discount code for residents for these audits and working with township to ensure language around promoting these audits was acceptable.

c. Fall newsletter

Newsletter is due to the township by August 25, 2023. Amy Mawby will finalize text that includes recap of year to date events, composting workshop, and PECO Energy Audits.

6. Upcoming Events

a. Compost Workshop

Amy Mawby confirmed the Compost Workshop led by Pennsylvania Resources Council (PRC) has been set for Thursday, October 12th in the Township Building. Registration is for residents only and will be hosted on the PRC website. We need to aim for 20 attendees. Cost will be \$70 per person and include the workshop and a take-home compost bin that retails for about \$120. After discussion, the EAC decided to subsidize half of the resident cost - \$35 paid from EAC budget and \$35 paid by the attendee.

7. Township updates

a. Supervisor update

Supervisor Snyder encouraged residents to attend Board of Supervisor meetings, which are always open to the public.

b. Planning and OSPAC updates

Planning Committee update provided by Brett MacKay. Township comprehensive plan is moving forward with the Planning Committee as the steering committee. Township staff working on EV charging station ordinance.

OSPAC update provided by Richard Costlow. OSPAC is working with the Chestnut Foundation to install between 21-25 trees along Kriebel Rd. These trees would require a 2 year maintenance plan due. OSPAC is also preparing a 2024 budget proposal with Grist Mill Park the priority due to grant funding that could expire. Public Works has concerns about maintenance of impermeable surface for event parking at Fischer's Park.

8. New Business

a. Discussion with township manager at September meeting

Dave Kraynik to attend the September EAC meeting. EAC agrees this should be an open discussion to better align EAC with township initiatives, to offer EAC member expertise on issues of importance to township, and promote a strong working partnership.

b. EAC Committees

Rory Kelley would like to connect with North Penn High School ENACT club at the start of the school year. There was brief discussion regarding whether changes Supervisors are considering to add 'Associate Members' could also incorporate 'Junior Members' for those in school. Amy Mawby suggested we consider that full EAC meetings may not be the best use of their limited time and consider engaging ENACT where it would be most mutually-beneficial.

c. EAC Fall Gathering - October 21st West Chester University

Members should consider whether they would like to attend and be prepared for the next meeting to express whether or not they are interested.

9. Additional public comments

Resident Kris Kazmar inquired what the status was of the renewable energy resolution presented at the Board of Supervisors meeting earlier in the year. Rory Kelley relayed that the EAC tabled any formal resolution and is now trying to determine which specific renewable energy projects would fit into larger EAC goals / plans. Kris suggested possibly hosting a renewable energy fair.

10. Adjournment