



Towamencin Township Environmental Advisory Council

Minutes from the March 10th, 2026 Meeting

Council members present: Brett MacKay, Joe Meehan, David McCreary, Donna Hegge, Dr. Rich Costlow (Assoc.), Casey Hannings (Assoc.)

Council members absent: Anthony Long (Assoc.), Corina Fiore, Wendy Zoll Fillgrove

Public present: Bruce Bailey

Board of Supervisors (BOS) Liaison present: Vanessa Gaynor

1. **Call to Order** - meeting called to order at 7:05pm

2. **Opening Comments** - Anthony and Wendy and Corina unable to make it tonight per Donna.

3. **Public Comments** - Bruce to make comments during bird town. Open space meeting last night mentioned kriebel goes from bustard to springer road with bad curves. Bird feeders placed around the old house. Field leased out for farming hoping to become open space in future, connectivity a concern. Can kriebel be straightened out and rerouted to accomplish connectivity, mitigate hazardous turns, avoid old house, opens bridge, existing road can be used as a trail and for overflow parking. Bruce bringing to EAC attention for support. Joe mentions not a new idea. Was originally planned at concept of Fischers park during early 2000s. Costly plan. Road To skirt around perimeter of cornfield. What is environmental upside per Donna? To expand borders of park per Bruce.

4. **Approval of Minutes** - 2/10/2026 - minutes approved unanimously.

5. Bird Town PA Subcommittee Report

a. March 5th Meeting - bird town pa had a zoom meeting with several presentations. Combined with township meeting to keep all participants up to speed. Skipped most agenda and pushed to next meeting to participate. Good meeting with good topics.

b. Troxel Meadow birdhouses - blue bird houses were put up today by Steve. 4 houses total. 3 along tree line facing into meadow.

c. Fischer's Park birdfeeders - not discussed at last meeting. Plan to replace seed about twice a week. Where will seed be stored? Planned for area by old house around bridge. Need a lockable space. Old toolbox maybe with a lock.

d. Purple Martin birdhouse from Game Commission for Fischer's Park. - Game commission approved request to receive large umbrella like arrangement of nests. Helps

control insect populations over fields. Design rooted in historical indigenous cultures. Worth 500\$. Will be delivered to site and installed by parks. To be up by June. Martins to arrive mid spring and migrate back come fall. Requires some maintenance. Sign to educate about birds and structure. Two post holes to be dug by parks. Steve at parks all for it per Bruce. Best place at old ball field by sideline closest to parking lot facing out towards field. How do we formally tell game commission we will accept? Vanessa said to contact Dave Kraynik to extend an official acceptance email.

e. Early Spring Birding at Fischer's Park - Saturday, April 4, 2026, 7:30 to 10 a.m. - event still on for this time and day.

Existing comments. Go to Kibler meadow and roll down windows - stay quiet. American Woodcocks in area with classic meep sound around sunset. One of the best if not the best birding places in montco. Begin plan for next meadow in phases to accommodate existing birds.

6. Old Business

a. 2025 projects

i. Annual Report - Corina not here to present about this agenda item. To discuss at next meeting.

ii. Grasslands, Landscape, and Other Ordinances - received revised ordinances from Mary Stover of CKS Engineers on 3/5. They are in the Google Drive:

Towamencin EAC/Ordinance/Landscape Ordinance.

- Will need to go through planning because they are SALDO. Brett suggests we state to Mary stover that "We have reviewed them they're fine can they be placed on the planning commission agenda". To be reviewed by newly hired Zoning officer and planning director.
- Buffer yard requirements - edits accepted and approved
- Riparian corridor buffers - edits accepted
- Stormwater management landscaping - edits accepted
- Landscaping of off street parking areas - edits accepted
- Street trees ordinance - edits and changes look good and accepted by council
- A116 Plantings - edits all look good and accepted
- 136-704. Final plan - edits accepted
- Preliminary plans - edits accepted
- Landscape requirements - edits accepted
- Destruction of trees - edits accepted
- Brett to send email

Casey to draft up a feasibility letter to solicitor and share with Donna to send and ask about pursuing grasslands amendment further.

b. 2026 projects

i. Troxel Meadow - sign material - don't use yard signs and seek out a metal sign that can be relocated to new meadow restoration projects. Should be legible from road but to scan QR code a person will likely need to stop and approach. 24x26. Not specific to one site. Generic to apply to many sites. Planning to order 2-3. Cost tbd. Dave to explore options with Michel at township. Should be under 100 a piece.

ii. Bustard Rd. No Mow - no more news at the moment.

iii. OSPAC/EAC collaboration on subdivision review - met on the 25th of February with Tony from pinnacle. Presented same presentation about community facilities and open space for recreation to developer. Not enough room for this or that repeatedly said. Flat fields etc. not much info shared from developer as far as their alternative ideas. Just a presentation on what OSPAC was thinking. Met last night with Justin Strayhorn - project manager for WB homes. Summarized pinnacle presentation but to highlight forest park area set for that development. Broke down by expected criteria. One trail along turnpike connecting anders to development sidewalk. Woods are in good shape with little invasives. Could some small trails be installed without cutting down large trees but some underbrush. Small playground but mostly trails and maybe a disc golf course through woods. Continue trail up past development into forest. More so in negotiation phase. Community members can be opposed to trails behind property. To present to public works on a sparrow meeting. Not a paved trail but something with minimal disturbance to add trails with educational signs identifying tree species.

iv. Towamencin Day - 5/30 - Bruce wants a table for bird town. Dave to help out. Donna available to sit at table. David brothers nursery interested in native plant sale (small scale) birdhouses. Ask Corina about clean water activities to educate public. Is David brother going to have difficulty moving plants off truck to table? Showpieces for each plant with pick up at truck in parking lot with show of receipt, Katie from township working out plan to park along Kriebel on other side of the creek. Is there any potential to run a shuttle from fire house? Can we plant another tree in conjunction with OSPAC? Can David brothers supply tree? Notify township to assist similar to last year.

v. Spring Newsletter Article(s) - submitted to Michelle Sepulveda - Donna submitted to Michelle

7. New Business

a. 2026 Workshops - budgeted same amount as last year. Dave sent text to Drew asking for day to give presentation on meadow restoration and ecological and safe herbicide use. To be compensated 300\$. Corina creek workshop was a big hit - could do again?? Dave can present again as well. Presentation of what to plant to deter deer from eating garden.

b. 2026 Goals - stick with current projects and complete to success.

c. WeConservePA - PA Land Conservation Conference 4/29 - 5/1 - interested participants should contact Donna.

d. Plastic Bag Recycling - Penndale versus High School. - who is taking recyclables? Kelly has not been doing it but would if needed. Rory wants to take to Penn Dale for recycling program. Accepted by board.

8. **Treasurer's Report** - Dave signed contract for 3 thousand for bustard road improvements. Not much other movement beyond that. Pollinator palooza to be looked into. Separately, Does EAC want to re-apply for grant at Morgan Loghouse? TBD

9. **Township Supervisor/Manager Report** - BOS meeting tomorrow to review comprehensive plan. Any specific recommendations from supervisors or public? EAC recommendations supportive of document and comments from last year included. Pinnacle presented alternative plan for 207 units at last meeting. Board voted to see an impact plan. Goal to make decisions on comp plan tomorrow to accept plan.

10. **Next Meeting April 14**

11. **Adjournment** - 9pm