

West Pikeland Township

Environmental Advisory Council

4/4/2023 Meeting Minutes

Attending: Council Members- Present: Bryan Maher, Sarah Newman (via phone), Janet Parry, Linda Reichart, Rich Pomeroy, Kathy Hughes, Glenn Wenger and John Matthews. Public attendance: Carin Mifsud

- 1) Call to order: 7:33 PM
- 2) Agenda was approved
- 3) Minutes from March 7, 2023 were approved.
- 4) Public Comment:

Glenn- Montgomery School Collaboration- Jay is the contact at the school. Planning on designing and building a rain garden instead of a pollinator garden. Vicki Laubach (Green Valley) is involved with the design/plan. After the design is approved by the school's board, they will apply for a grant to fund the project.

Kathy- Lights out sign update. The signs did not arrive as promised from Staples. They will pay for the overnight postage. Hopefully they will be here soon.

Janet- Should we have an EAC Table at the May 16<sup>th</sup> election? Yes, will put it on the May agenda. Glenn will order more white oak saplings.

Bryan- We should have a newsletter for the table. Bryan will contact Donna to help with the formatting.

Carin- Task for WPT EAC from the BOS. Collect data to block the Lion Station Farm Complex. There are time lines for Audubon to complete for the acceptance of their proposal. Want to draw it out until they run out of time. Nothing was public until recently about the plan from Audubon. Happy Day Farm was already approved back in 2020 for another industrial complex. There is a Uwchlan agitator group. Rich suggested angles we could approach: Zoning Codes, Storm Water Management, Traffic Study, Air Quality, Road Impact etc. Our EAC members should try to attend as many meetings as possible- numbers count. DASD bought the property for \$22 million and Audubon offered \$96 million. Get Trout Unlimited, Land Trust and similar non-profits involved. Do environmental studies such as tributary impact and protect it. Make it a shrinking game to make unfeasible for Amazon to build the industrial complex. Focus on Uwchlan Township's Planning, Zoning and BOS meetings and activities.

5) New Business

- a) Pine Creek Disc Golf Course Concerns: 1) Bryan shared with the WPT BOS at their meeting on April 3, 2023 the concerns that were brought up while the members of WPT EAC walked the course on March 26, 2023. The starting point for the first hole was moved to limit the impact on the new tree plantings. WPT EAC was concerned that holes 11 and 12 had too much impact on the wetlands. However, the holes will stay where they are since WPT BOS already approved the course (after time was allowed for residents to give input on the plans). They also "cleared" the invasives for the fairways- it was pointed out that the clearing only involved the mowing down of the invasives and they will grow back. Trees were cut down and it has now been agreed that no more trees will be cut down. WPT EAC would like to have a plan put in place, by the managers of the course, for long-term maintenance of the wetlands and replace the plants that were removed from the riparian buffers replaced with native plants.
- b) New Township Vehicle Purchase: 1) At this point WPT EAC has not been consulted about the purchase of the new vehicles (in the WPT newsletter it seemed as though the vehicles were already purchased); however, WPT was awarded a grant to purchase new vehicles and there is an option to trade up for hybrid/electric vehicles, which aligns well with the VPP Grant recommendations. 2) Cariin will look at the grant and will come up with a timeline. She would like the EAC to come up with

EV options (Hybrids cannot handle all the electronics that are required in a police vehicle). WPT fleet only uses SUVs, prefer made in USA, need to “fit the fleet,” etc. It is the goal of the township to eventually have an all EV fleet (Township managers, Jim and Barb were/are on board for an all EV fleet). Have to buy- will not lease. 6 year turnover of each vehicle so purchases are staggered every 2 years to replace a vehicle. Chief's is up for replacement this year.

6) Old Business

- a) Possible collaboration with WPT Land Trust and the 50+ acre parcel- Janet: Nothing has happened. Janet was wondering if the woods will be logged? Need to look at contract with the Dietrich Foundation.
- b) VPP Grant update - John and Bryan: Grant agreement ends with the consultant at the end of April Bryan will finalize the plan and have ready to handout at the May EAC meeting.
- c) Renewable Energy presentation by Rachel Griffith- Linda: Rachel had agreed to present. Will have it at Pine Creek Park Pavilion. Linda will check with WPT to see if the pavilion is either available on September 20<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM.
- d) Bird Conservation presentation-Janet: Contacted Holly and she had November 7<sup>th</sup> available. Since it is election day, we cannot meet at that time. Janet will find out her availability for the Winter 2024.
- e) EAC Trail Walk- Choose a spot: Walnut Lane Park, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 AM.
- f) WPT Sustainability Festival- Bryan and Mike Leader: Skip.
- g) Pine Creek Park Maintenance Day- Sarah: Sign up Genius Link for April 15<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM to noon.
- h) Spring Highway Cleanup date and confirmation- Bryan: April 29<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM to noon. Bryan will send out a reminder.

7) Announcements

- a) John went to the WPT BOS meeting on April 3, 2023 and had a discussion with the board that our township needs to get ready for EV supply infrastructure. Other townships have made this commitment- WPT has not. WPT EAC needs to come up concrete goals to motivate the BOS. Bryan said the VPP Grant Plan for WPT will be the best model to follow. Carin said the BOS is on the same page. WPT does want to build the infrastructure for EVs; however, there are a lot of moving parts and cannot make it fit into the schedule due to money constraints. Right now WPT is focused on purchasing Open Space. She would like to the EAC to give suggestions on the next steps.
- b) Next meeting is May 2, 2023

8) Adjourn: 8:47 PM

Action Items:

- 1) Glenn- Order White Oak saplings for the May 16 Primary table..
- 2) Bryan- Touch base with Donna and putting together the next WPT EAC newsletter.
- 3) EAC- Devise tactics to stall the Lionville Station Farm approval.
- 4) EAC- Come up with a list of appropriate EVs to replace the WPT police fleet.
- 5) Bryan- Put the WPT VPP Plan for the next meeting.
- 6) Linda- Check with WPT for availability of the Pine Creek Pavilion for Rachel's presentation in September.
- 7) Bryan- Send out Road Clean up event reminder.
- 8) Janet- Contact Holly for a Winter presentation on birds.
- 9) EAC- Come up with a concrete plan for the BOS on EV supply infrastructure.