

**East Pikeland Township
Environmental Advisory Council**

**Meeting Minutes
February 22, 2018**

Meeting called to order at 7:03pm

Present: Betsy Burns, Milissa Hirst, Travis Uyeno, & Samantha Uyeno.

Absent: Leo Kaercher, Zach Rubinich, & Dennis Ray

Guests: Michelle Rubin (EPT Rep.)

Minutes from the January meeting were approved as read.

Old Business

- Strategic Planning Meeting Summary
 - Betsy and Milissa represented the EAC at the Planning Meeting and they summarized discussions for EAC members not in attendance.
 - There are a lot of sustainability initiatives going on in the region that we can support or emulate.
 - Michelle gave a presentation on sustainability and proposed doing a Township-wide sustainability plan.
 - 724 economic development and preserving resources/sidewalk project update. How to get to the Schuylkill River Trail. Walkable Kimberton, traffic calming ideas in Kimberton.
 - Park and Rec having more events this year so we can partner with them to get the word out about the EAC
 - Single hauler trash—this was brought up by Ron Graham- he asked the EAC to work on this. It was attempted approximately 10 years ago and had a lot of pushback because they Township did not present the idea well. The EAC needs to explore this in the next year.
 - The EAC will look at past research, other similar communities that have made the switch, etc. Explore the best payment options.
 - Clean energy leaders group--promoting the 100 goal. State-wide initiative to reach 100% renewable by a certain date.
 - Smaller scale--what the Township on a smaller scale can do--road salt, cleaning supplies, etc.
- Follow up on Goal Topics
 - Michelle re-iterated the goals that the EAC will pursue this year which are as follows:
 - Re-build the foundation of the EAC:
 - Get the EAC back on people's minds by tabling at community events (Kimberton Fair, Kimberton Park Party, trail clean ups, etc.) and at local businesses. Build relationships with local

environmental groups, businesses, and residents interested in learning about topics related to the environment

- Have a stronger online presence on the website and social media.
- Sponsor a few small events focused on education
 - Storm water management (rain gardens, rain barrels, native plants, and other techniques to try at home)
 - Work with naturalist from Audubon Society to hold a bird walk along trail/in Township
- Discover ways to expand compost and recycling options in the Township
- Plan an Earth Day event for 2019
- Plan workshops, programs, speakers, etc. for 2019
- Research ways for the Township to progress in areas of natural resource preservation, stormwater management, sustainability, and environmental education.

New Business

- EAC Conference
 - There will be an EAC conference on April 14 that members of the EAC will try to attend. So far, Milissa and Betsy are signed up.
- Spring Clean Up/Arbor Day
 - Michelle explained that it was not in the budget this year for Park and Rec. or EAC to do a tree planting or sell trees unless we find a grant to support this. We could still do a native tree sale in the fall if we can find a grant in the meantime. Could also be a great thing to have at the Earth Day event next year—if we find a grant and plan a head we can be more successful. Michelle mentioned the Schuylkill River Highlands mini-grant program as one possibility.
 - The council discussed other options as well such as creating a hand out about invasive species and native plants that the EAC could hand out in the next year while they are at events.
 - Could also ensure that all local nurseries have the hand out available and include it in the summer newsletter.
 - Travis brought up youtube as a good place to lead people, and Milissa mentioned the Chesapeake Bay resources as a potential option. Council members would prefer to find something that already has been created vs. creating something from scratch. Council members will research possible options.
 - Road Clean Up
 - Michelle brought up another option for Earth Day weekend. There is a trail clean up Saturday, April 21, but the Township has been getting a number of calls about trashy roads. The EAC could sponsor an Earth Day Road Clean Up Project. The Township would be able to provide vests, bags, gloves, and road signs for the clean up.

- Council members supported this idea and would like to begin planning.
 - Members will think of roads that need to be cleaned and we will discuss via email
- Travis asked if we could look into getting sticks with points for the clean-up or borrowing them. Members will look into options.

Public Comment

None

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm