

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Notes
June 14, 2011

In Attendance: Keith Peters, Chairman, Arnold Feldman, Vice Chairman, Ethan Prout, Don Richardson, William Lloyd, Shawn Touhill, Kelly McGowan and Jeffrey Fehr. Staff members in attendance were Stephanie Mason, Township Manager and Sandra Zadell, Assistant Township Manager.

On a motion made by Mr. Lloyd, seconded by Mr. Richardson the meeting notes from February 8, 2011, March 8, 2011, April 12, 2011 & May 10, 2011 were approved. The motion passed unanimously.

EAC's Role in Plan Review: Mr. Peters explained to the EAC that the Ms. Mason was in attendance at tonight's meeting to discuss the EAC's role in plan review.

Ms. Mason started by clarifying that the EAC is an advisory board to the Board of Supervisors. This means that the Board will review any information that the EAC gives to them but they do not necessarily need to act on that information.

In regards to the Neamand Tract Mr. Peters stated that the EAC feels that the documents provided by the Neamand Tract Development were lacking, incomplete and raised some concerns. The EAC would like to know how to proceed from this point without overstepping their bounds?

Ms. Mason stated that the Neamand Tract Property has received Preliminary/Final Plan Approval. The Township has professionals who do plan reviews. She did state that if we are given any open space as part of the land development agreement, then the Township can do further testing on that part of the property since we will be taking the easement.

Mr. Fehr stated that it is his opinion that the Del Val study done in regards to the Neamand Tract is not lacking and does not raise any concerns at this time. The sampling that they did, did not lead him to believe there is any serious issues.

Mr. Feldman stated that he felt that the arsenic and lead levels were high.

Mr. Fehr commented that those are voluntary levels and that at face value the Township really wouldn't need to be interested in that data.

Ms. Mason repeated that the areas that we can ask for additional testing on are open space areas which we will do. She also stated that residents in attendance at the Board of Supervisors meeting during the Neamand Tract review were very in favor of the development of the property due to the fact that it has been neglected and will be cleaned up.

Mr. Prout commented that in order for the Township to make a development decision regarding this property they should see a property wide Phase I.

Ms. McGowan commented that the Township ordinance do not support this type of environmental testing.

Mr. Peters asked Ms. Mason if it is ever too late for the EAC to express their opinion, since the property has already gotten preliminary/final land development approval is it too late to comment.

Ms. Mason commented that it is never really too late comment especially given that if we do take ownership of the open space and there are issues that the EAC wants examined.

On a motion made by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Mr. Lloyd the EAC decided to send a memo to the Neamand Tract property, thanking them for letting us review the plan and stating that based on the Del Val Soils review there is an indication of possible contamination. While they agree with the Del Val study they would like to see a Phase I and Phase II be completed, further evaluations for agri-chemical impacts. The UST's and AST's on the site should be removed.

Mr. Peters stated that it is the job of the EAC to point out our concerns and then leave that in the laps of the Board of Supervisors.

The Committee then further discussed the analysis of the open space.

Mr. Richardson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lloyd to add to the memo a request that as a condition of the final land approval the Board of Supervisors required that the open space that will be dedicated to the Township will go through a through and comprehensive evaluation. The motion passed unanimously.

Delaware Valley College Parking Lot – Land Development Plan: After discussion, on a motion of Mr. Prout, seconded by Mr. Fehr the Committee voted to send a memo to Delaware Valley College indicating that they need to install plastic storm drain makers at the site that read “Rain Only”, the motion passed.

Ms. McGowan, Mr. Richardson, Mr. Lloyd and Mr. Feldman all abstained.

EAC Summit: The EAC then discussed the EAC Summit which overall went well. The Committee discussed that the preferred previous years format better than this years; they felt that there was not enough time for networking and that the layout of the room was not conducive to networking.

Ms. Mason commented that the EAC updates that have been done in the past were something the she felt were really useful and something that she missed at this summit. She also thought that it would be a good idea for everyone to introduce themselves at the start, to give the feeling of a networking opportunity.

The Committee also discussed that there should probably be less speakers and more interaction, maybe only one presenter next time.

Mr. Peters would like to attach a survey to a thank you email to participants and remind them that they received the thumb drive.

The EAC also decided that they would like to hold the summit in-house next year on our property and possibly a partner from Montgomery County.

The EAC Summit should be added to the November 2011 agenda.

Trash Survey: Mrs. Zadell reported on the status of the Trash Survey. When checked today there were 167 responses, she stated that she was hoping for 600 responses which would be a 10% response rate.

Mr. Lloyd mentioned that we should talk about ways to get the word out about the survey. Mrs. Zadell will send an email to Mr. Feldman with the link for the survey since he has a good email group from his block party list.

Mrs. Zadell will also post a message on the cable channel that states that the survey is available online.

Mrs. Zadell will also create a PDF that has the link to the Trash Survey that the EAC can distribute to friends and neighbors.

The EAC also decided to include the link again the in Fall 2011 Newsletter.

Stormdrain Makers: The EAC then discussed the new stormdrain markers that will be in use from this point on.

Mrs. Zadell presented information that she thought that the stormdrains will cost \$3.25 each, if we buy 50 – 249. We will also need to purchase adhesive cartridges that can be used on approximately 60 drains costs approximately \$11.60 each.

On motion of Mr. Feldman, seconded by Mr. Lloyd the EAC voted to purchase 100 plastic storm drains for the trial program to be used by the student doing his Senior Project this summer.

Leaf & Yard Waste Options: The EAC has discussed different ways to enhance our recycling performance grant numbers for leaf & yard waste. One option would be to allow multiple drop offs at our leaf & yard waste site, more than just once a month, maybe up that number to twice a month during the busy months such as September, November etc.

Mrs. Zadell reported that the site will be moving into Central Park at the request of Delaware Valley College and Mr. John. It will be easier to access and the traffic flow should move a little better.

Mr. Fehr stated that although multiple drop offs would be great they would be difficult to afford.

Mr. Peters said we need to encourage greater use of our drop off site and that he has spoken to Mr. John about the potential of doing a one-time pick up of sticks each year. Mr. Peters asked that Mrs. Zadell invite Mr. John to the next EAC meeting that will be held in September to talk about leaf & yard waste options.

Riparian Buffer: Mr. Touhill reported on his Riparian Buffer work with the Northbranch Watershed Association. He is working on their special projects committee to study how the PECO owned land along the Riparian Buffer could be improved. He is looking at working on an educational campaign to get resources to help homeowners along the Riparian Buffer to do landscapes that are healthier for the Riparian Buffer. He spoke with Jeffery Marshall at the Heritage Conservancy who is willing to work with us. He will keep us posted on this project.

Newsletter Articles: The Committee discussed newsletter articles for the Fall newsletter which are due August 10th, there will be information about the Trash Survey, Mr. Peters will write a storm water related article, Ms. McGowan will write an article about the leaf and yard waste recycling.

For the Winter/Spring addition Mr. Lloyd & Mr. Richardson will work on an invasive species/pristine lawn article, Mr. Prout & Mr. Fehr will work on a Marcellus Shale article and Mr. Feldman will work on a light bulb article.

Mrs. Zadell will talk to Tristan Kowalski about the potential of a Christmas Tree Recycling Pick up Project this winter.

Shred Event: Mrs. Zadell said that it may be difficult to pull together a shred event for this year due to the lack of funding and timing between the end of the year and now. There are only three meetings between this meeting and the end of the year.

They discussed the May/June time frame for 2012. Ms. McGowan will contact some contacts that she has to see about pricing for a shred event.

Mr. Lloyd brought up the Senior Gardens of Delaware Valley College should be on the agenda for September.

Mrs. Zadell reported on a new Adopt-a-Road Program that she will be taking to the Board of Supervisors for their June 21st meeting. The Adopt-a-Road Program will be in conjunction with Furia Rubel a local business who contacted Mrs. Zadell to see if this is a project that we could get off the ground. The program will allow agencies, corporations,

individuals, etc. to adopt 1-mile stretch of Township road for a 2-year commitment to clean up litter 4 times a year. It should be a really successful litter reduction program.

On motion of Mr. Feldman, seconded by Mr. Richardson the committee adjourned at 8:57pm.