

Bethel Township Environmental Advisory Council
Meeting minutes from March 6, 2017

Call to order: Chair Najarian called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Attendance: Council members present were Mike Najarian, Fred Folmer, Daphne Meyer and Marthe Olesh. Supervisor liaison Jake Meyer was also in attendance. There were no other persons present.

Approval of minutes: Olesh made a motion to approve the minutes from February 6, 2017 as submitted. D. Meyer seconded and the motion carried.

Old Business:

Chesapeake Bay Drainage Awareness: Folmer showed Council the stencil he had prepared. Due to weather and other planned project considerations, by consensus it was decided to wait until sometime in May to begin stenciling township drainage infrastructure.

Municipal Building Wetland: Supervisor Meyer informed Council he would check with the surveyor concerning the wetland limit boundaries.

Berks County Environmental Organization Network (BCEON): Folmer and Olesh planned to meet at the township municipal building to carpool to the meeting on March 29, 2017 at Nolde Forest. Najarian indicated he would meet them there.

Bethel Elementary School Junk Fair: It was determined to contact the school to receive permission to view the students' projects sometime between April 18 and 21, 2017. Digital pictures of the winners and other entries will be taken to prepare a slide show report.

Earth Day Litter Pickup: Using a checklist compiled by Najarian, final preparations and job assignments/responsibilities were made for the litter pickup to be held on April 22nd, 2017.

Recreation Board: Folmer informed Council he would be accompanying the Rec Board when they planned to make a walk through of the Airport Road property on Sunday, March 12, 2017.

New Business:

Atrazine Study: Having received notification of a pending study to determine the presence of atrazine (a common agricultural pesticide) in the Susquehanna River Basin, by consensus Council decided to participate if possible. Folmer was tasked to make the necessary arrangements.

Ongoing Tabled Business: Citing multiple articles from the Lebanon Daily News, Folmer shared information from the following:

Thursday, February 16, 2017: “Southeast PA Counties Moved from Drought Warning to Less Severe Drought Watch Status” and,

Friday, February 24, 2017: “Sunoco Building Two Pipelines Across PA” and,

Saturday, February 25, 2017: “ Two Activist Groups Challenging Gas Pipeline Projects” and,

Thursday, March 2, 2017: “ Local Municipalities Join Forces to Satisfy EPA Watershed Plan” .

Adjournment: At 8:10 p.m. Folmer made a motion to adjourn. Najarian seconded and the motion carried. The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, April 3, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Bethel Township Municipal building.

(Minutes submitted by Fred Folmer, Secretary to Council)