

Bethel Township Environmental Advisory Council
Meeting minutes from September 9, 2017

Call to order: Chair Najarian called the meeting to order at 7:10 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: Najarian made a motion to approve the minutes from August 7, 2017 as submitted. Olesh seconded and the motion carried.

Old Business:

Chesapeake Bay Drainage Awareness: After having painted four storm drains in the vicinity of the main square in Bethel village on Saturday morning, September 9, 2017, Council evaluated the painting procedure and how it might be improved. By mutual consent it was decided to resume marking additional drainage infrastructure in the spring of 2018 as weather permits.

Municipal Building Wetland: Member Meyer reported she had communicated with the surveyor who is to identify the wetland boundaries. He informed her that delineation will be done during the winter months when there is less vegetation.

Recreation Board/Airport Road Property: There was no new report.

North Point Development: It was reported that Council's position paper on the North Point development in Berks 78 Park had been reviewed by the Planning Commission. It is now to be submitted to the Township Supervisors for their consideration.

New Business:

United States Geological Survey (USGS) Groundwater Testing: Folmer gave a synopsis of the water quality monitoring of rural Pennsylvania domestic water supply wells which the USGS is conducting in order to establish an up-to-date baseline. Using printed handouts and bound volumes of studies already completed in Lycoming and Wayne Counties, he reported that the objective is to characterize the current chemical quality of groundwater from shallow

freshwater aquifers tapped by privately owned wells. He also explained the actual well water sampling procedure and the financial costs of the study.

State of the Environment: Najarian announced that Berks Nature's 2017 State of the Environment Breakfast will be held on November 9, 2017 from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Reading.

Ongoing Tabled Business:

Folmer cited the following articles from the Lebanon Daily News: "Sunoco Reaches Pipeline Agreement - Company to Re-evaluate High Risk Drilling Procedures and Offer Water Testing" from August 10, 2017; "Spotted Lanternfly Quarantine Expands in Southeastern PA" from August 17, 2017; "Court Rules New York Had Power to Deny Key Pipeline Permit" from August 20, 2017; "Runoff Water From Fire Causes Fish Kill" from August 22, 2017; "Dead Trout Blamed on Pipeline Related Spill in South Annville" from August 28, 2017; and "Overflow - Pipeline Builder Spills 50 Gallons of Drilling Mud into Snitz Creek" from September 7, 2017.

Adjournment: At 8:29 p.m. Folmer made a motion to adjourn. Najarian seconded and the motion carried. The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, October 2, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Bethel Township Municipal Building.

(Minutes submitted by Fred Folmer, Secretary to council)