

Bethel Township Environmental Advisory Council
Meeting minutes from April 2, 2018

Call to order: Vice-chair Norton called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

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

Approval of minutes: D. Meyer made a motion to approve the minutes from March 5, 2018 as submitted. Norton seconded and the motion carried.

Old Business:

Chesapeake Bay Drainage Awareness: Supervisor Meyer informed Council the Board of Supervisors had approved the previously submitted list requesting the stenciling of the drains and other infrastructure in Frystown.

Municipal Building Wetland: There was no new report.

Recreation Board/Airport Road Property: Folmer reported he had attended the meeting of the Rec Board on March 15, 2018 where he passed along the information about the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources grants. He also informed Council the survey of the Airport Road property had been completed and the Rec Board had arranged to meet with Gary Kraft, the township engineer. Subsequently, the Rec Board, Supervisor Lee Groff and he had met with Kraft on Monday, March 19, 2018 and shared ideas and suggestions about how the Airport Road property might be developed as a day use municipal park. Kraft was tasked to consider the suggestions and incorporate them into an initial blueprint for a master plan. Folmer relayed the Rec Board's request that the EAC walk the property to begin gathering data to be used to lay out a walkable, self-guided nature trail.

Township Recycling: Supervisor Meyer informed Council there was a need for a volunteer to continue the development of a recycling program. Members were requested to try to think of residents who might be willing to serve in that capacity and bring those suggestions to the next meeting.

Bethel Elementary School Junk Fair: It was noted the Junk Fair would be taking place very soon and the \$150.00 for the winners' prizes would need to be sent

to the school. Folmer volunteered to make the necessary arrangements with the township manager.

Land Conservation: With four EAC members having attended a land conservation meeting on March 22, 2018, Folmer informed Council he had followed up with a visit to Camp Swatara. He relayed he had met with the Director of Grounds and using informational brochures from the land meeting, had a discussion about conservation easements and forest stewardship. He indicated the director was receptive and would relay the information to the appropriate person on the Camp Swatara Property Committee. Folmer indicated he would follow up with that person later in the spring if he didn't hear back by then. He added he informed the land conservation meeting facilitator, Berks Nature's Larry Lloyd, of the visit and discussion.

Spotted Lanternfly (SPLF): Folmer reported he had met with the Camp Swatara Director to inform her about SPLF. She consented to post one of the large metal informational signs in a prominent location in the family campground area. She also agreed to furnish printed information to campers when they register. He also informed Council he had met with the insect control specialist, Evan Corondi, of the Berks County Conservation District to procure more informational brochures, plastic cards and another large metal sign. He indicated Corondi was receptive to conducting a public information seminar in Bethel Township. There was a brief discussion about scheduling the seminar sometime in September but no specific date was chosen.

Earth Day Litter Pickup: A final check of the assignments and responsibilities was made in preparation for the litter pickup to be conducted on Saturday, April 21, 2018.

New Business:

Berks County Environmental Organization Network (BCEON): Olesh announced there would be a meeting of the BCEON on Tuesday, October 23, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. at the Nature Place (aka Angelica Park) in Reading, PA.

Ongoing Tabled Business: Folmer shared a Lebanon Daily News article "New Pipeline Incident at Snitz Creek Halts Work, Raises Ire" from March 18, 2018. He also highlighted two articles from the Reading Eagle: "Calling for Tougher Pipeline Oversight" from March 26, 2018 and "Court Backs Sunoco Pipeline Project" from March 28, 2018.

Adjournment: At 8:30 p.m. Folmer made a motion to adjourn. Olesh seconded and the motion carried. The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, May 7, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Bethel Township Municipal Building.

(Minutes submitted by Fred Folmer, Secretary to Council)