

Bethel Township Environmental Advisory Council
Meeting minutes from October 1, 2018

Call to order: Chair Najarian called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Attendance: Council members present were Mike Najarian, Fred Folmer, Ken Norton and Marthe Olesh. There were no other persons in attendance.

Approval of minutes: Because there was a speaker/information session in lieu of the regularly scheduled meeting on September 10, 2018, Norton made a motion to approve the minutes from August 6, 2018 as submitted. Najarian seconded and the motion carried.

Old Business:

Chesapeake Bay Drainage Awareness: There was no new report.

Municipal Building Wetlands: There was no new report.

Recreation Board/Airport Road Property: Folmer reported he attended the meeting of the Rec Board on August 16, 2018. An invited speaker, John Zimmerman from Marion Township, addressed the group about the benefits of multi-municipal partnerships to provide recreational opportunities for their combined residents as well as the improved ability to successfully obtain grants to develop and maintain those recreational facilities. Folmer informed Council that Bethel Township has contributed \$10,000 of the needed \$63,000 needed towards that end and has several representatives on the committee comprised of Bethel, Marion and Tulpehocken Township residents which will develop the Comprehensive Recreational Plan and cooperate on the grant application process. Additionally, Folmer relayed that the Rec Board will meet with Township Engineer Gary Kraft on Monday, October 15, 2018 for the purpose of getting estimates to put out bids for the initial excavating to develop the Airport Road recreational facility.

Spotted Lanternfly (splf): Council discussed the splf information seminar presented by Evan Corondi on September 10, 2018. It was noted there was a total of 24 attendees from Bethel and nearby townships and that Channel 69 News interviewed Corondi prior to the session. Following what Council felt was an excellent presentation, there were a lot of very good questions which indicated a high level of interest. On a related note, Norton reported he observed an adult spotted lanternfly at the fueling pumps of the Sheetz in Bethel and that he dispatched it. That was the first reported instance of splf in Bethel Township by any EAC member.

Camp Swatara/Land Conservation: There was no new report.

New Business:

Berks County Environmental Organization Network (BCEON): It was noted that the BCEON will meet at The Nature PLace at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 23, 2018. Several EAC members indicated an interest in attending. Folmer volunteered to RSVP to the meeting facilitator.

State of the Environment Breakfast: Najarian indicated he will represent Council at the meeting on Thursday, November 8, 2018 at the Crown Plaza.

Ongoing Tabled Business: There was none.

Upcoming: It was announced the Solid Waste Authority of Berks County will conduct a tire collection at the Berks County Ag Building on Friday, November 2, 2018.

Adjournment: At 7:55 p.m. Norton made a motion to adjourn. Najarian seconded and the motion carried. The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, November 5, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Bethel Township Municipal Building.

(Minutes submitted by Fred Folmer, Secretary to Council)