

Springfield Township Environmental Advisory Board

27 May 2020 Meeting Minutes

The Springfield Township Environmental Advisory Commission met for their regular monthly meeting at 7:00 PM. via the Zoom Virtual Conferencing Program.

ATTENDANCE

Members present at the meeting included: A. Stemplewicz, J. Bergey, Z. Cross, C. Richter, D. Rammon. Associate members present included: C. Wilmerding, C. Karl, P. Eddis

Commissioner Liaison Mr. Wilson and staff liaison Mr. Ford were also present. Commissioners Standish and Lee of the Board of Commissioners was also in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Lacking minutes from their last meeting, the approval of the April 2020 minutes was tabled.

OLD BUSINESS

COMMUNICATIONS

C. Richter provided an update on the EAC's draft communications strategy. One of the most notable accomplishments since last month's meeting was the creation of a new facebook page for the Springfield Township EAC.

The creation of subcommittees and the communication strategy for such groups was discussed. It was decided that EAC Chair, A. Stemplewicz, is to be copied on all subcommittee communications. C. Richter, C. Wilmerding, & C. Karl formed a communications subgroup.

P. Eddis, associate member and former EAC Chair, was asked about historical documents and projects from the EAC and the commission explored the possibility of sharing that information.

SOLARIZE/SOL SMART

J. Bergey, EAC Vice-Chair, shared information about the planned Solarize Webinar for Wed. June 17 at 7PM.

Mr. Ford, staff liaison, updated the commission on the status of the Township's Sol Smart application.

WORKSHOPS

The Commission discussed future workshops available through the Penn State Extension.

NEW BUSINESS

EAC CONFERENCE SUMMARY

J. Bergey provided an outline on the lessons learned from the EAC members who attended the 2020 Pennsylvania EAC Conference (held virtually). C. Wilmerding - plastic bag regulations, Z.

Cross – native plant ordinance and funding for swimming pools, all – creating partnerships. C. Karl offered to lead the effort to create a list of potential partners.

The idea of having EAC members work to attend and build relationships with other Springfield Twp. Advisory Boards.

Mr. Ford shared that efforts have been made to coordinate with DEP for a regional local climate action plan. The general idea is for the Montco Consortium of Communities to participate and open the program to all communities in Montco.

COMMUNITY GARDEN

C. Wilmerding expressed her interest in creating a new community garden in the Township. After some discussion, the Commission decided to reach out to Morris Arboretum to inquire about the basics and planning involved in a community garden.

READY FOR 100 / ENERGY TRANSITION PLAN

J. Bergey offered insight on the efforts of the Montco RF100 Group and requested a subcommittee be formed to explore the creation of an ETP for the Township. J. Bergey, Mr. Ford, S. Heverin (in absentia), and Patrick Hines (Twp. resident) will form the subcommittee.

TOWNSHIP UPDATE

Commissioner Wilson and Mr. Ford provided updates on several Township items:

New Polling locations – reduced in number and relocated to school district facilities in light of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Census 2020 – a reminder that the census is still in gear and asked that members make sure that they spread the word to be counted.

Energy Audit – summer audit was planned but postponed due to pandemic.

Road Paving Contract – the list of roads planned to be paved in 2020 was shared

School Zone Flashers – an update was given on the progress of the solar-powered flashers.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Brandon Ford
Assistant to the Township Manager