

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES
March 17,2022 7:00 PM

In attendance: Deemer, Finkenbinder, Hulle, Hockenberry, Gill, Murray

Absent: Schawallder

Staff: Adam Ravenstahl

1. Meeting Called to Order at 7:04 PM
2. Approval of Minutes for February, 2022. Passed Unanimously
3. Landslide prevention Project - Rainbarrel Rebate
 - a. Deemer presented EAC proposal to Commissioners and it was met with favorable
 - b. Township Rainbarrel program for March 23, 2022 at 7 PM has 41 registrants to date. Attendance will be capped at 50.
4. Zoning Ordinance Review
 - a. Examination of Moon Township's 2013 evaluation of their Zoning Ordinance as performed by for landscaping revisions for potential improvements to Ross Township Zoning Ordinance. Deemer reviewed improvements that were recommended and adopted by Moon that include:
 - i. Permeable Pavers (ADA Accessible)
 - ii. Definitions of Bioswale, Raingarden and other terminology
 - iii. Setbacks
 - iv. Parking Planter Plan
 - v. Invasive Species list
 - vi. Various standards landscaping to reduce run-off and flooding, improve water quality, walkability
 - b. Landscaping improvements positively impact stormwater management, which reduces flooding and landslides. Reducing flooding and landslides is a priority for the Ross Township Environmental Advisory Council by the Township Commissioners.
 - c. Motion to recommend an independent holistic review of the landscaping provisions of Ross Township Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, Zoning Ordinance, and other relevant rules and regulations to improve sustainability, bike-pedestrian safety, and reduce run off and flooding. Motion by Hockenberry, second by Murray. Motion Passes for 6-0.
5. Bus Stop Improvements
 - a. Murray presented a review of bus stop utilization and accessibility and shelter placement.
 - b. Murray will contact Pittsburghers for Public Transit <https://www.pittsburghforpublictransit.org/> for input
 - c. Deemer recommends that the EAC seek to improve our bus shelter placement, and that the EAC is involved in the Lamar contract to make a recommendation for community sustainability and safety.
 - d. The EAC will continue study of this issue.
6. Sanmartino Park
 - a. The EAC received the planting plan from the Parks and Recreation Department
 - b. The EAC is participating in a tour on Saturday March 19 at 1 PM.

c. The EAC commends the inclusion of native plants in the Planting Plan.

7. Community Involvement

- a. Finkenbinder reported on the progress of the design and purchase of a banner for events to identify Ross Township EAC to the community.
- b. Community Clean-Up Day is April 23 and 24, 2022 and the township is promoting the event. Residents can register by calling the Ross Township Municipal Building at 412-931-7055. The Township will provide the necessary supplies for your group's cleanup. Register by April 14th. EAC members will promote in their neighborhoods and throughout the Township.
- c. Gill will attend Tri-Boro Ecodistrict Review on March 26, 2022 and will bring back information about the Ecodistrict approach.

8. Public Comment

- a. Darlene Didonato made suggestions on the bus shelter, stormwater projects, coal tar recommendations, and communications.

9. Motion to Adjourn by Murray, Second by Deemer, passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan G. Hockenberry