



**Montgomery Township Environmental Advisory
Committee
May 24, 2022
7:00 PM**

Montgomery Township Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) met on May 24, 2022 at the Township Administration Building.

The members of the EAC in attendance included: Ryan Rex (Chair), Maureen Mirabella (Vice-Chair), Don Hamp, Terry Wilson, Jonathan Katz, and Catherine Mazzie. Also in attendance were Beth Staab, Board of Supervisors liaison, and Derek Muller, Public Information Coordinator. Faran Savitz from Penn Environment and Richard Metz from the Springfield Township EAC joined virtually as guest speakers.

Regular Meeting

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm.

Approval of Minutes – April 26, 2022

- On a motion by Mr. Rex and a second by Ms. Mirabella, the minutes from the April 26, 2022 EAC meeting were approved.

New Business

- **Presentation – Single-Use Plastic Bag Ban Research**
 - Mr. Hamp, along with Faran Savitz from Penn Environment and Richard Metz from the Springfield Township EAC, presented information about the harmfulness of single-use plastic bags. The presentation included action taken by local and state governments in the area regarding single-use plastic bag laws.
 - Following the presentation, the EAC unanimously agreed that the committee will work on an action plan to provide educational tips and materials to encourage residents to bring reusable bags to grocery stores and to refrain from taking plastic bags at grocery and retail locations that distribute plastic bags. The action plan will develop over time to include any further advisory steps the EAC may wish to present to the Board of Supervisors.
- **Resolution Reducing Distribution of Single-Use Plastics**
 - During the public Board of Supervisors meeting on Monday, May 23rd, 2022, the Board of Supervisors signed a Resolution to encourage Township businesses to reduce the number of single-use plastics (bags, straws, utensils, Styrofoam containers, etc.) distributed to customers. Ms. Staab shared information about the Resolution, stating this step is the start of a conversation and community education opportunity.
- Environmental Newsletter Draft

- Mr. Muller emailed a draft of a proposed environmental-specific Township newsletter to members of the EAC prior to the meeting. The committee gave their stamp of approval and suggested the name “EcoNews” for the publication. Content will be created by the EAC, and Mr. Muller will format it into a quarterly newsletter.
- The goal of the newsletter is to share environmental initiatives and educational materials with residents who opt in to receive the EcoNews.

Old Business

- **Rain Garden Presentations – Wed. June 22, 2022 7pm @ Mont CRC**
 - Mr. Rex reminded the EAC to mark their calendars for this event, and noted that he has seen it promoted across the Township’s communication channels. Ms. Staab shared that the speakers at the event will be Leslie Bass from the Penn State Extension and Madge Monser from the Ambler EAC.
 - On the subject of rain gardens, Mr. Katz offered to document his process of creating his own rain garden for EAC educational materials.
 - Through conversation about taking on yard projects, it was suggested to add the OneCall resource to the EAC’s webpage. Mr. Muller will add the resource to the webpage.
- **Battery Recycling Update**
 - Mr. Muller shared that since the battery recycling program began in Spring 2021, the Township and EAC have recycled 754 pounds of single-use batteries. The total is as of May 5, 2022.

Other Business

- **Tuesday Tips and Blog Posts**
 - Ms. Mirabella and Mr. Katz shared their content schedule, guidelines for writing social media tips and website blogs, and instructions about how to share and access content with the EAC. As noted in the EcoNews discussion, the EAC will create the content, and Mr. Muller will post it to the Township’s channels in accordance with Township policy.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for June 28th at 7:00 pm at the Township Administration Building.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM.