



**Montgomery Township Environmental Advisory
Committee
January 25, 2022
7:00 PM**

Montgomery Township Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) met on January 25, 2022 virtually via Microsoft Teams.

The members of the EAC in attendance included: Ryan Rex, Don Hamp, Barry Baker, Maureen Mirabella, Terry Wilson, Catherine Mazzie, and Jonathan Katz. Also in attendance were Beth Staab, Board of Supervisors liaison, and Derek Muller, Public Information Coordinator. Two residents attended the meeting as the public.

Reorganization Meeting

Call to Order

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions

- Prior to the appointment of a Chair and Vice-Chair of the 2022 EAC, the members of the EAC introduced themselves briefly. We welcomed two new members – Catherine Mazzie and Jonathan Katz – to the EAC.

Consider Appointment of Environmental Advisory Committee Chair for 2022

- Following nominations, Ryan Rex was appointed the Chair of the EAC for 2022 on a motion by Ms. Mirabella and a second by Mr. Wilson. All members were in unanimous agreement.

Consider Appointment of Vice-Chair of Environmental Advisory Committee for 2022

- Following nominations, Maureen Mirabella was appointed the Vice-Chair of the EAC for 2022 on a motion by Mr. Wilson and a second by Mr. Baker. All members were in unanimous agreement.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:06pm.

Regular Meeting

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm.

Approval of Minutes – October 26, 2021

- On a motion by Mr. Rex and a second by Mr. Baker, the minutes from the October 26, 2021 EAC meeting were approved.

Public Comment

- A discussion regarding stormwater management on residential properties and the importance of educating residents about how they can help on the ground level was held. Ms. Mazzie shared that she had experienced 3 floods on her property in just a few short years, and she offered to send resources to Mr. Muller for distribution to the EAC to help facilitate future discussions.
 - These resources are linked on this document following the minutes.
- Montgomery Township Resident Hope Grasso requested that the EAC consider looking into the dangers of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS), and the impact they could potentially be having in Montgomery Township. Ms. Grasso the Co-Founder of the Buxmont Coalition for Safer Water and is a member of the National PFAS Contamination Coalition Leadership Team. She offered to send resources to Mr. Muller for distribution to the EAC to help facilitate future discussions.
 - These resources are linked on this document following the minutes.

New Business

Committee Membership Update

- The EAC once again welcomed Ms. Mazzie and Mr. Katz to the EAC.

Activities in 2022

- **Electronic Recycling April 23rd 9am-Noon – Volunteers Needed** – Mr. Muller shared that there will be an Electronic Recycling event at William F. Maule Park @ Windlestrae from 9am-Noon on April 23rd. He requested that members of the EAC volunteer in one-hour shifts that day. Members of the EAC were asked to let Mr. Muller know their availability prior to the event.

2022 Topics of Focus

- As framed in the Public Comment portion of the meeting, there was agreement to strongly focus on Stormwater Management and Education in 2022.
- The EAC will also review the resources provided by Ms. Grasso regarding PFAS to educate themselves. Learning more about the topic will help determine steps the EAC may be able to take in their advisory capacity to the Township.
- The idea of working with guest presenters and setting up workshops to increase productivity was discussed. Members will look into ideas for the year.

Old Business

Website and Blog Content

- The EAC discussed setting up an organized calendar of social media tips (weekly), and blog posts (monthly). Mr. Katz offered to create and maintain the calendar. All members of the EAC will be responsible for submitting content.

Battery Recycling Update

- Mr. Muller shared that as of January 14, 2022 a total of 322 lbs had been recycled in Montgomery Township. The battery recycling program began in Spring 2021. Since that latest report from Battery Solutions, at least two more buckets were filled and shipped, and the bins are already full since that collection.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for February 22nd at 7:00 pm. The format is TBD.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:33 PM.

Resources

Stormwater Management – Streamside Buffers

- **PA Dept of Conservation and Natural Resources**
 - <http://elibrary.dcnr.pa.gov/GetDocument?docId=3779757&DocName=Streamside%20Buffers%20Residential.pdf>

- <https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/Conservation/Water/RiparianBuffers/Pages/default.aspx>
- <https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/Conservation/WildPlants/LandscapingwithNativePlants/BuyNativePlants/Pages/default.aspx> (Where to Buy Native Plants)
- **Ambler Borough EAC Rain Garden Program**
 - <https://www.growingamblergreener.com/about-the-program>

PFAS

Below are reports from PA DEP and USGS and NAVY websites so you are able to see all the testing they also did and continue to monitor.

The state has not released the sample report yet, soon. USGS just did a independent report below.

PA Department of Environmental Protection

https://www.dep.pa.gov/Citizens/My-Water/drinking_water/PFAS/Pages/default.aspx

<https://www.ahs.dep.pa.gov/NewsRoomPublic/articleviewer.aspx?id=21961&typeid=1>

<https://earthjustice.org/features/breaking-down-toxic-pfas>

<https://www.env-health.org/how-pfas-chemicals-affect-women-pregnancy-and-human-development-health-actors-call-for-urgent-action-to-phase-them-out/>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/12/05/us/politics/pfas-water-contamination.html>

NAVY Information:

https://www.bracpmo.navy.mil/brac_bases/northeast/reserve_base_willow_grove/documents.html

USGS Water Flow Report (See PAGE 25,26,27)

<https://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2019/1137/ofr20191137.pdf>

<https://pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/ofr20191137>