



**Montgomery Township Environmental Advisory
Committee
March 22, 2022
7:00 PM**

Montgomery Township Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) met on March 22, 2022 at the Township Administration Building.

The members of the EAC in attendance included: Ryan Rex (Chair), Maureen Mirabella (Vice-Chair), Don Hamp, Catherine Mazzie, and Jonathan Katz. Also in attendance were Beth Staab, Board of Supervisors liaison, and Derek Muller, Public Information Coordinator. One resident attended the meeting as the public.

Regular Meeting

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm.

Approval of Minutes – January 25, 2022

- On a motion by Mr. Rex and a second by Ms. Mirabella, the minutes from the February 22, 2022 EAC meeting were approved.

Public Comment

- Resident Hope Grasso presented five questions to the EAC and Supervisor Staab regarding the turf field proposal that was presented to the Board of Supervisors on October 11, 2021 by Montgomery United Soccer. The questions were answered in turn, with an assurance that any information regarding the proposal moving forward will be made publicly available. Supervisor Staab and the members of the EAC expressed that the cleanliness environment and health of residents is crucial when considering this proposal. Mr. Muller recommended Ms. Grasso discuss the matter with the Park & Recreation Advisory Board.
 - Upon what was deemed sufficient discussion, Mr. Hamp made a motion to end the current conversation and move on to the next item on the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rex.

New Business

- **Arbor Day Tree Giveaway (Shade Tree Commission) – April 23rd 9am-Noon (or while supplies last)**
 - Mr. Muller shared information about the Shade Tree Commission's Arbor Day Tree Giveaway event at Gazebo Park (1001 Stump Road).
 - A discussion about collaborating with other environmentally-minded committees, such as the Shade Tree Commission, on future events/summits was held.

- **New Event Ideas**
 - **World Water Day** – With March 22, 2022 being World Water Day, the EAC made it a point to place this annual event on their calendar that is currently being developed so that they can make plans for World Water Day on March 22, 2023.
 - **Composting** – The EAC would like to direct Township residents to a resource that distributes composting bins. An update will be provided at the April 2022 meeting.

Old Business

- **Communication**
 - **Content Neutral Policy** – Mr. Muller made a presentation explaining Montgomery Township’s practice on what is referred to as “content neutral” when communicating with residents through their various channels. This is a topic that requires discretion when referring residents to various resources, particularly for-profit resources, when pursuing environmentally-friendly initiatives.
 - **Review of Tips/Blog Posts Schedule** – Mr. Katz shared his document showing the backlog and upcoming schedule for Tuesday Tips and blog posts for the website.
 - **Ideas for Promotion and Outreach** – Mr. Muller advised the EAC that there is a budget available to distribute giveaways and educational materials that promote environmental sustainability and stewardship. These would also help to make the EAC more recognizable in the community. Ideas includes tablecovers, reusable bags, and magnets sharing recycling information. The EAC expressed interest in the Autumn Festival on October 15, 2022.
- **WeConservePA EAC Virtual Conference** – A brief recap was provided by Mr. Rex about the Virtual Conference. Mr. Rex presented, Mr. Hamp helped organize the Conference, and Ms. Mazzie and Mr. Katz attended the event. The information shared will be helpful to the EAC.
- **Rain Gardens** – The EAC agreed to reach out to the Penn State Extension to try to set up a rain garden workshop in June. An update will be provided during the April 2022 meeting.
- **Electronic Recycling April 23rd 9am-Noon** – Mr. Muller shared that there should be enough volunteers to conduct the Electronic Recycling Event at William F. Maule Park @ Windlestrae. A spreadsheet will be shared via email to confirm shifts based on previous communications.
- **Battery Recycling Update** – To date, Montgomery Township has collected 619lbs of batteries to be recycled since Summer 2021.
- **Review of Proposed 2022 Schedule** – The EAC determined that sufficient discussion on this topic was held during previous meeting topics.

Other Business

- **Sunshine Law Webinar** – All Committee volunteers are required to attend a webinar regarding PA’s Sunshine (Right to Know) Law on April 4th. A recording will be available for anybody who cannot attend the event live.
- **Ready for 100 Advisory Ad-Hoc Committee Meeting Thursday, March 24th @ 7pm at the Township Building** – Ms. Staab and Mr. Muller invited interested EAC members to attend this public meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for April 26th at 7:00 pm at the Township Administration Building.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:47 PM.