



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

Montgomery Township Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) met on October 25, 2022 at the Township Administration Building.

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

Regular Meeting

Call to Order

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes – September 27, 2022

- On a motion by Mr. Rex and a second by Ms. Mirabella, the minutes from the September 27, 2022 EAC meeting were approved.

New Business

- **Upcoming/Past Events** – Information about the following events was shared and discussed:
 - WeConservePA EAC Network Fall Gathering - October 22 - Virtual
 - Compost Zoom Event – November 2nd - Virtual
 - Community Forestry Workshop – Nov. 4 – Community & Recreation Center
 - Penn State Extension Site Visit – November 11th – Residential
 - Autumn Festival – October 15
 - Doylestown Twp Regional EAC Summit – October 12
- **Township Comprehensive Plan – Bicycling**
 - Mr. Hamp noted that the Township's Comprehensive Plan mentions biking multiple times. He supports biking, but has safety concerns. Mr. Muller informed him that the Township engineers, Gilmore & Associates, have been working on studies and plans to make the Township more accessible safer for pedestrians and bicyclists. The EAC is interested in learning more about these efforts, and suggested the Township publicize materials educating residents about the plans.

Old Business

- **Single-Use Plastics**
 - Ms. Staab informed the EAC that the Board of Supervisors is open to drafting and considering an ordinance eliminating single-use plastic bags in retail stores in Montgomery Township. She mentioned it may also include straws. At this time the ordinance is not drafted, and the details of it are being worked out. It will be important for businesses and residents to know there will be a grace period built into the ordinance. Educational content about the change will be instrumental. Mr. Hamp suggested the EAC consider holding a Q&A event for residents.

- **Communication**
 - Mr. Muller shared feedback he received from EAC members regarding the content they want on their page. He shared a draft design from the Township's website provider, eGov.
 - The EAC is interested in expanding their blog posts versus focusing on shorter tips in the future. Mr. Muller will request permission for Wordpress to be used as the blogging platform.
 - This quarter's EcoNews will be sent in early November, covering August 2022 through October 2022's environmental news and tips.
- **Battery Recycling** - Since the Township introduced battery recycling in the Spring of 2021, over 1000 pounds of batteries have been successfully collected and recycled. The total as of 10/18/22 was 1026 pounds.

Other Business

- **Street Tree Education** – Ms. Staab shared that the Shade Tree Commission wants to share information about care and requirements of having trees on residential properties, particularly street trees. She asked if the EAC can help with the educational content. The EAC was interested in helping the Shade Tree Commission. Mr. Muller suggested scheduling and advertising a joint meeting between the EAC and Shade Tree Commission in early 2023. March 2023 was proposed, with a date TBD based on discussions with the liaisons of the Shade Tree Commission.

Public Comment

- There was no public comment.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for November 22nd at 7:00 pm at the Township Administration Building.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.