

Montgomery Township Environmental Advisory Committee January 24, 2023 7:00 PM

Montgomery Township Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) met on January 24, 2023 at the Township Administration Building.

The members of the EAC in attendance included: Ryan Rex, Don Hamp, Jonathan Katz, and Scott Hemmons. Also in attendance were Beth Staab, Board of Supervisors liaison, and Derek Muller, Public Information Coordinator. J.P. Northrop, Chair of the Business Development Partnership attended to discuss single-use plastics from a business perspective.

Reorganization Meeting

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Appointment of Environmental Advisory Committee Chair and Vice-Chair for 2023: Unanimously the members of the EAC agreed to reappoint Ryan Rex as Chair and Maureen Mirabella as Vice-Chair for 2023.

Adjournment – The reorganization meeting adjourned at 7:04pm.

Regular Meeting

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm.

Approval of Minutes – November 22, 2022

• On a motion by Mr. Rex and a second by Mr. Katz, the minutes from the November 22, 2022 EAC meeting were approved.

New Business

- **Finalize Single-Use Plastic Surveys** Following a discussion and minor adjustments to the draft residential and business surveys regarding single-use plastics, the surveys were approved for publication in February, pending approval by the Township Manager.
 - J.P. Northrop, Chair of the Business Development Partnership, made recommendations about how to approach business owners about the subject. He will help Ms. Staab visit the first handful of businesses during the process.

Activities in 2023

- o WeConservePA Virtual EAC Conference Response needed by 2/1
- o Electronic Recycling April 22nd 9am-Noon Volunteers Needed

Sign up at EAC: E-Recycling April 22, 2023 (signupgenius.com)

- Methane Recovery Landfills vs. Incinerators (Discussion)
 - Mr. Rex shared that his company recently entered a contract with a waste removal company that takes waste to a methane recovery landfill. The landfill provides power to 15,000 homes. He was interested in discussing the pros and cons of this method versus incinerators. The EAC agreed the methane recovery landfill option was more environmentally friendly.
 - Since Montgomery Township residents contract with their own private trash haulers, Mr. Muller suggested writing a blog post about the subject to educate residents about the topic.

Old Business

Communication

 EAC 2022 Review Letter – The EAC unanimously agreed to publish Mr. Rex's EAC year in review letter as-is. A few links may be adjusted as the website revamp continues and nears completion.

Battery Recycling

- o Total as of 1/17/2023: 1283 lbs
- o 2022 total: 991 lbs (first full year of the program)

Other Business

What's Next for the EAC?

- Members of the EAC decided the other discussions during this month's agenda informed the next steps for the EAC.
- Mr. Rex will draft a review letter highlighting and celebrating the EAC's accomplishments in 2022, which will be publicized in early 2023.

Public Comment

• There was no public comment.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for February 28th, 2023 at 7:00 pm at the Township Administration Building.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:42 PM.