



Upper Uwchlan Township

Environmental Advisory Council Meeting

March 1, 2022 – 6:00 PM – Upper Uwchlan Township Building
Minutes

Attendees

Council members Amit Dalvi, Madhu Gurthy, Neil Phillips, Patti Spackman, and Meredith Squitiere attended. Assistant Township Manager Shanna Lodge attended. One member of the public attended.

Call to Order

Neil Phillips called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

Review of Minutes

Neil asked for comments on the minutes of February 1. There were no comments. Madhu moved, and Amit seconded, to approve the minutes of February 1, 2022. The motion carried.

Old Business

Banner for the EAC – It was the consensus of the group to purchase a 2x6 foot table-front banner for use at upcoming events.

Earth Day Event – The Earth Day Celebration on April 23 at the Barn at Upland Farm from 11 - 2. Shanna presented and reviewed the committed participants and prospective participants in for this event. Patti offered to contact the Eagleview Farmers' Market. Madhu suggested recruiting student volunteers to organize and host recycling and other green-themed games for kids. Neil suggested that the Council meet at the Upland Barn for their April meeting to better finalize events logistics. Shanna will begin publicizing the event via Township channels.

Comprehensive Plan – Neil offered a schedule for the group to review the Comprehensive Plan, one or two chapters of the plan at a time to be reviewed at upcoming meetings this year. The review will consist of a high-level look at the goals and consider potential adjustments or changes. For the April meeting, the Council will review Chapters 1 and 6.

New Business

Green Drop Event – Madhu is in communication with Green Drop to coordinate a used item drop off event. It was the consensus of the group to aim for a date in May for an event to be held at one of the Township parks. Madhu will follow up.

Community Flower Garden, Pollinators – The group discussed possible locations to plant either individual or a garden of pollinators and native plants. Madhu suggested the Eagle Crossroads pocket park. Patti suggested Upland Farm. Neil shared a book with the group – *The Door Yard*, edited by Donald Berg. The book offers landscaping advice compiled from 19th century sources. Neil suggested the group consider

this inspiration for a landscape design goal at Upland Farm, given the Park and farmhouse's history. Meredith suggested that the Historic Commission may want to be involved in this plan. Shanna will connect with Township facilities staff to consider steps toward this goal.

Coordination with Other EACs – Madhu reported back from the Pennsylvania EAC meeting, which was informative and offered good networking. Our neighboring EACs are eager to help and work with Upper Uwchlan. Madhu will invite the chair of the West Vincent EAC to the next Upper Uwchlan EAC meeting to speak on their initiatives.

Consideration of Clean Energy Resolution Effort – Shanna distributed Uwchlan Township's Resolution in Support of a 100% Renewable Future by 2050. Neil suggested the Council table any action and review/research this effort in advance of their next meeting. A discussion of electric cars and vehicle charging stations followed. It was the consensus of the Council that installation of charging stations in the Township should be a priority.

Comment to the DEP Regarding Marsh Creek Lake Cleanup – Meredith brought this issue before the Council given the environmental impact of the August 2020 spill of drilling fluid into Marsh Creek Lake during the installation of the Sunoco pipeline. The DEP is currently accepting comments on an amendment request from Sunoco regarding the limit of disturbance of the cleanup. The group discussed the issue and agreed upon the following comment: *The Upper Uwchlan Township Environmental Advisory Council supports a complete and total cleanup of Marsh Creek Lake and the surrounding ecosystem, and a full restoration of all impacted areas. The Council further requests that cleanup activity be executed in a manner that minimizes impact on the community's quality of life and avoids any additional harm or damage to waterways, the local environment, and Township infrastructure.*

Open Session

The group discussed the construction at the Texas Eastern property along Fellowship Road.

Shanna advised the group that the Board of Supervisors has opted to extend the current trash and recycling hauler contracts for another year.

Patti reported back from a West Vincent "Litter Lifters" event in which she participated. She noted that March 1 is the start of over 2 months of the "Pick Up PA" program, through which PennDOT donates supplies to volunteers interested in conducting litter pickup events in their neighborhoods. She asked that this program be publicized on the Township website and at the upcoming Earth Day event.

Adjournment

There being no more items before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Shanna Lodge