



Upper Uwchlan Township

Environmental Advisory Council Meeting

July 12, 2022 – 6:00 PM – Township Building
Minutes

Attendees

Council members Amit Dalvi, Madhu Gurthy, Neil Phillips, Patti Spackman and Meredith Squitiere attended. Assistant Township Manager Shanna Lodge 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 June 7. Meredith moved, and Amit seconded, to approve the minutes of June 7, 2022. The motion carried.

Old Business

Upper Uwchlan Township Block Party

The annual Upper Uwchlan Township Block Party was held on Saturday, June 18 and went very well. The EAC sold three of their t-shirts and handed out magnets and stickers. Neil complimented the Council on their outreach efforts. Amit noted that the Council was well-received by the public at the event. Shanna reported that the info sign-up sheet was effective, and that she has reached out to all those who signed up to ask for more information about the EAC. Patti suggested that the very effective “Don’t Waste Your Recyclables” poster should be used at future events and digitized for online use. Madhu suggested that next year, a kid friendly activity might draw a better crowd.

Electronics Recycling/Document Shredding Event

The electronics recycling event is scheduled for Saturday, October 22, to run from 9 am to noon at the Public Works Building. Shanna reported that both companies have been contracted with, and the event will be advertised soon.

Fall Education Event

Meredith reported that she connected with the Chester County Master Gardener program. This group has prepared education workshops to present to interested groups. The requested donation to the program for the workshops is \$75-\$100. They ask for a guaranteed audience of 15. It was the consensus of the group that the workshop “Putting Your Garden to Bed” would be interesting and appropriate for a fall event. Meredith will follow up with the Master Gardener program to look for a possible date in early November.

Township Tree Lighting

The group discussed ideas for their role in the annual “Light Up Upper Uwchlan” Tree Lighting, scheduled for November 26, 2022. Neil reiterated that Epicurean Garage is willing to partner with the EAC if they decide to go the food/beverage route. Other ideas discussed included eco-friendly decorations, giveaways or crafts. The

idea of replacing single-use glow sticks was discussed. Other upcoming events include a tentative fall concert on September 18, and the Trunk-or-Treat at Hickory Park on October 29.

New Business

Water Protection Fee Consideration

Neil and Shanna provided information to the group about stormwater fees, reporting information learned from a workshop at the Center for Water Quality Excellence (CWQE). Shanna noted that the Board of Supervisors has tasked the EAC with providing them with information regarding the implementation of such a fee, which will offset staff, construction, and maintenance costs related to the ongoing operation of the Township's storm sewer system. Neil noted that, to get started, the EAC will need detailed information about the time and labor that the program currently costs as a sub-set of the Public Works department, and comprehensive information about the system elements, e.g., pipes, inlets, and basins. Neil suggested that the CWQE might attend a future EAC meeting and offer further help to the group. Shanna will reach out and see if this can be scheduled.

Comprehensive Plan Review

The Council reviewed the 2014 Comprehensive Plan (Comp Plan) Chapter 3: Eagle Village; and Chapter 5: Transportation. Since the EAC discussed the Village Concept Plan (VCP) at the previous meeting, the discussion of Chapter 3 was brief. The group affirmed their points from the memo they wrote to the Planning Commission regarding the Village Concept Plan. The VCP will be discussed at another ad-hoc meeting later this week. Regarding Chapter 5: Transportation, Neil noted that much of the chapter includes data that will need to be updated. Other discussion items included the need to incorporate electric vehicles and their associated EV charging stations, ride-sharing, and potential expansion of public transit into the chapter. The group reiterated the need for Graphite Mine Road to be better utilized as a true bypass of Eagle Village.

Open Session

Neil asked if he could move forward seeking out grants, rebates, or other funding toward the installation of electric vehicle charging stations in the Township. It was the consensus of the group that this was a great idea, and Shanna advised there would be no administrative issues with his researching the topic further.

Neil further noted that the EAC should seriously move forward with exploration of adding solar panels to Township properties where feasible.

Madhu suggested that more shade trees are needed at Upland Farms along the trail. Meredith offered to look into the million trees initiative and other programs.

Shanna reported that she got a question about recycling plasticware. Patti offered to look into the question.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the EAC will be held Tuesday, August 2nd at 6 PM.

Adjournment

There being no more items before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Shanna Lodge