

**Plainfield Township
Environmental Advisory Council Meeting
October 1, 2018**

The Plainfield Township Environmental Advisory Council meeting was held on Monday, October 1, 2018, 7:00 pm at the Plainfield Township Municipal Building, 6292 Sullivan Trail, Nazareth, PA 18064.

Those in attendance were:

Terry Kleintop, EAC Chairman	Robert Cornman – EAC Vice Chairman
Robin Dingle – EAC Member - absent	Don Moore – EAC Member – arrived 7:02pm
Bruce Rabenold – EAC Member	Robert Simpson – EAC Member
Jane Mellert, EAC Secretary and Member	Tom Petrucci – Plainfield Twp. Manager

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

The pledge of allegiance was performed.

Also in attendance – Ian Robinson

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion – September 10, 2018 Minutes - A motion was made by Bob Cornman and seconded by Bob Simpson to approve the September 10, 2018 minutes.

Vote: 6 Yes

OLD BUSINESS

PA DEP Growing Greener Plus Grant - Little Bushkill Creek - Proposed Schedule:

- 1. October 9th** – Jason will submit the final draft plan
- 2. November 5th** - The final draft plan will be reviewed at the EAC Meeting and comments will be forwarded to Jason Smith
- 3. November 29th** – The final draft plan will be presented to the Board of Supervisors
- 4. December 12th** - A public presentation will be given for the Board of Supervisors and Public. The Board will vote on accepting the plan.

Official Map - Lehigh Valley Greenways Grant “Plainfield Township Official Map Adoption” project (contract no. C2P2-22-LVG-22.10)

Township Manager Tom Petrucci reviewed the following schedule:

- 1. October 1st** - Review of Official Map Project Schedule
- 2. November 5th 2018 – January 7th 2019** - Review of Existing and Proposed Public Parks, Playgrounds and Trails
- 3. November 14th** - Consultant Hired for Official Map Drawing
- 4. November 14th – January 18th** - Consultant Starts and Finishes Official Map Drawing
- 5. January 7th – February 4th 2019** - Review of Flood Control Basins, Floodways and Floodplains, Stormwater Management Areas, Greenways (included forested areas) and Drainage Easements
- 6. January 24th** - Public Meeting #1 (Review Parks/Playgrounds and Trails)

7. **February 28th** - Public Meeting #2 (Review Flood Controls, Storm water Management Areas and Greenways)
8. **March 4th** - Public Hearing (Required as per MPC)
9. **March 11th – April 25th** - 45 Day Comment Period Begins (Required as per MPC)
10. **April 25th** – 45 Day Adoption Date
11. **May 1, 2019** - Lehigh Valley Greenways Grant Project Completion Date

Tom Petrucci asked the EAC if we can adhere to the proposed schedule for the Official Map project. Township Engineer Mike Kukles from Ott Consulting Engineers is being considered for the mapping work. Mr. Petrucci contacted Claire Sadler to confirm whether the Township Engineer can be utilized for the work as per the grant and State bid regulations. An Ordinance will be required to adopt the Official Map. Mr. Petrucci has the ordinance language. The procedure for adoption of the ordinance is set by the Municipalities Planning Code.

A brief conversation regarding the scope of the work was discussed between Tom Petrucci and Mike Kukles prior to the EAC meeting. Land areas will be identified and then sent to the consultant. Corridors that the Township would like to consider for protection should be added. Grand Central Woods, and land along the trail will be considered.

The study for development of the Gall Farm may include additional trail parking and bathroom facilities. Northampton County owns the Gall Farm and Plainfield Township has contributed \$15,000 towards the project through a DCNR grant.

Tom Petrucci will research and outline the steps involved when a property shown on the Official Map is under review by the municipality. The Official Map Book can be utilized during the process.

Terry Kleintop noted that Bushkill Township has an Official Map and the municipality takes a strong stance when a resident wants to develop along a stream. Bruce Rabenold noted that when the Township wants to hook up to other (recreation) trails it would be good if that connection could be provided. It was noted that there have been meetings regarding trail connections to the PPL trail, North Broadway in Wind Gap, Northern Tier Trail, Appalachian Trail, etc.

On November 5th 2018, review of existing and proposed public parks, playgrounds and trails will be started.

Plainfield Township Conservation by Design Development Ordinance Proposed Revisions

1. Short term conservation development revisions - Tom Petrucci reviewed the short term revision recommendations dated August 10, 2018.
 - The table on page ten (10) is new.
 - There are concerns over the ownership and maintenance of the greenway areas. Should the greenway property be incorporated into one of the lots? Would this create maintenance issues?
 - Revisions will be made on page 16 items 5 through 9

Motion – Ordinance #39 Conservation Development Proposed Revisions - A motion was made by Bob Cornman and seconded by Bob Simpson to forward the August 10, 2018 draft short term revisions to the Planning Commission. Tracking should be used to show the proposed changes to the existing ordinance.

Vote: 6 Yes

The short term revisions should be passed by the end of 2018.

2. The long term conservation development revisions will cover the SALDO and Zoning regulations. The revisions will take a year. This item will remain on the EAC Agenda

EIT for Open Space

- Grand Central Woods - Township Manager Tom Petrucci had a meeting with Waste Management regarding the potential for preserving the land area known as Grand Central Woods. He previously met with representatives from the Wildlands Conservancy and Northampton County. The next step is a walk at the site which will take place on October 30th at 10 am. Brian Cope, Adrienne Fors, Chris Stroller, Tom Petrucci and a couple of the EAC Members will attend.

Northampton County Farmland Preservation and County/Municipal Partnership Program

- Updated – 2018 Summary of Farmland Preservation Ranking System. Northampton County Farmland Preservation Board voted for Maria to move forward with #8, 9, 10 and 11
- Tom Petrucci spoke to Maria Bentzoni regarding the letters sent to eligible landowners for farmland preservation. Every farm that is over 10 acres but is not in an Agricultural Security Area were sent a letter explaining the program and farms located within an ASA area were sent the regular letters.
- It was noted that several Counties in Pennsylvania have a backlog of farms that applied for preservation.
- Tara Zrinski and Lamont McClure have been supportive of land preservation and Ms. Zrinski attends the Northampton County Farmland Preservation Board meetings.
- Northampton County wrote an addendum regarding the use of bio solids on preserved farmland and sent it to the Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Farmland Preservation for review. The addendum would ask landowners to voluntarily pledge to not use or spread bio solids or sewage sludge on their preserved farmland. The addendum would only apply to those future farms being considered for the program, not farms which were previously preserved. The response to the request was received by Northampton County. The Department of Agriculture denied the request. Terry Kleintop reported that the County may go back to the State of PA again with the request. Tom Petrucci noted that there are technicalities with the request as written on the draft proposed farmland preservation application. The technicality is based on the right to farm act language allowing for bio solid application.
- The land owned by Northampton County will not allow renters (farmers) to spread bio solids on County owned property.
- Terry Kleintop noted that there are several municipalities that have ordinances regulating sludge application. The ordinances were developed in the 1980's. The one municipality is near Bowman's' Town. Court cases have developed.

NEW BUSINESS

Lehigh Valley Planning Commission Brief, Dated July 31, 2018 - Amendments to Woodlands Guidance (Ten Changes listed in Bold)

- Tom Petrucci has had comments from residents regarding the proposed zoning amendments that will be considered for adoption by the Board of Supervisors in October 2018. The concerns are in regard to the updated woodland regulations.

Proposed PA House Bill Number 2281 Biosolid Material Municipal Regulation Act - An Act providing for municipal regulation of the deposit, disposal or land application of biosolid material; and requiring a public referendum under certain circumstances.

- Tom Petrucci is working on realistic language recommendations to send to the State Representatives. He is looking at language that may be able to be passed at the State level.

A letter with suggestions will be reviewed by the Board of Supervisors and sent to the State Legislators.

- Tom Petrucci will email a copy of the letter to the EAC members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 3, 2018 Regional EAC Meeting with Brooks Mountcastle of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy will be held on Wednesday, October 3rd from 6 – 8 pm. at the Plainfield Township Municipal Building.

October 6, 2018 – AERC Northampton County Electronic Waste Recycling Event 9am to 12 pm
The event will be held at the Grand Central landfill facility. Plainfield Township and Waste Management personnel will assist with collection.

October 16, 2018 – Monacacy Creek Watershed Association is hosting Landstudies, Inc. (an innovated stream restoration consulting firm) for a public presentation on October 16th at 6 pm at Illick's Mill in Bethlehem. The presentation will address:

- Flood Reduction/Pollution Removal
- Watershed Action Plan
- Legacy Sediment/Floodplain Restoration
- Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4)
- Regional Scale
- Cost/Benefit Analysis
- Maintenance
- Empirical Data vs. Models
- Case Studies

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Motion - Meeting Adjournment – A motion was made by Bob Cornman and seconded by Bruce Rabenold to adjourn the EAC meeting at 8:53 pm.

Vote: 6 Yes

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane Mellert, Secretary
Plainfield Township EAC