

**Plainfield Township  
Environmental Advisory Council Meeting  
November 5, 2018**

The Plainfield Township Environmental Advisory Council meeting was held on Monday, November 5, 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	Don Moore – EAC Member
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** – There were no attendees.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**Motion – October 1, 2018 Minutes** - A motion was made by Bob Simpson and seconded by Bob Cornman to approve the October 1, 2018 minutes.

**Vote: 7 Yes**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Tree of Heaven and Spotted Lanternfly**

Tom Petrucci noted that Sharon Pletchen will be at the Township in January to provide education on the spotted lanternfly and the tree of heaven.

**PA DEP Growing Greener Plus Grant - Little Bushkill Creek – Revised Schedule:**

- 1. The PA DEP approved a Growing Greener grant time extension until December 31, 2019**
- 2. October 9<sup>th</sup>** – Jason Smith submitted the final draft plan of the Little Bushkill Creek Study by the deadline.
- 3. December 3<sup>rd</sup> - The final draft plan will be reviewed at the EAC meeting with Jason Smith at 8pm. Jason will be requested to provide a power point with the maps.**
  - Robin, Terry and Tom will meet with Jason prior to the December 3<sup>rd</sup> presentation.
  - **Grant Applications** – The EAC questioned whether additional grants for restoration and or monitoring should be considered in March of 2019. If an application is considered then the plan should be in final form before March. Tom Petrucci noted the project should be well defined if a grant application is submitted. Water quality parameters could be considered for inclusion in the grant application.
  - Three questions need to be answered regarding the Little Bushkill Creek Study. The questions are as follows:
    1. Have the objectives been met?
    2. What has been learned from this work?
    3. Where do we go from here?

- The road department employees are not comfortable completing the restoration work as detailed in the current restoration plans. Tom Petrucci and Jason Smith will review the project details with a contractor in order to determine if the scope of work and costs are reasonable.
- 4. Spring 2019** - The final draft plan will be presented to the Board of Supervisors and a public presentation will be given for the Board of Supervisors and Public. The Board will then vote on accepting the plan.

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

- 1. Claire Sadler D&L Director of Trails & Conservation** confirmed the Township Engineer can be utilized for the Official Map process as per the grant and State bid requirements.
- 2. November 5<sup>th</sup> 2018 – January 7<sup>th</sup> 2019** - The EAC reviewed the Official Map landowner process outline. The following points were made during the discussion:
  - Tom Petrucci handed out a copy of the Official Map Landowner Process (One-Year Time Limit) for review.
  - Under the Official map guidelines the Township has up to one year to determine whether they want to pursue acquisition of land for the facility shown on the Official Map when an application is submitted for private development.
  - An application submission can be for a house, shed, garage, patio, etc.
  - Public education is very important in the process of adopting an Official Map
  - Some of the high priority areas for the Official map to address are greenways, the Blue Mountain Conservation Area, trails, stream corridors, future intersection improvements, storm water improvements (MS4), and storm water control. Envisioning new trail connections should include Northampton County’s development of the Gall Farm.
  - The following wording should be considered for addition under 3.
    - vi. Prior to the start of the process the developer can come to the Township to meet and discuss a resolution prior to the application submittal and start of the one (1) year review period.
  - Tom Petrucci will include a discussion on park areas on the next Recreation Board agenda
  - It was suggested that areas near the West Branch of the Little Bushkill Creek be considered for inclusion. It was noted that the gas pipeline follows the stream and crosses in the areas of Getz, Sandt, and Church roads.
  - It was noted that one lane bridges, highways, and transportation issues should be addressed in the comprehensive plan.
- 3. November 14<sup>th</sup>** – The Board of Supervisors will consider hiring a consultant for the Official Map drawing. The work will be started with existing information including the existing trails and stream corridors. It was suggested to follow the tree line and streams. Some of the area is shown on the existing Natural Resources Map dated May 14, 2008.
- 4. November 14<sup>th</sup> – January 18<sup>th</sup>** - Consultant Starts and Finishes Official Map Drawing
- 5. January 7<sup>th</sup> – February 4<sup>th</sup> 2019** - Stormwater Management Areas, Greenways (included forested areas) and Drainage Easements
- 6. January 24<sup>th</sup>** - Public Meeting #1 (Review Parks/Playgrounds and Trails)
- 7. February 28<sup>th</sup>** - Public Meeting #2 (Review Storm water Management Areas and Greenways)
- 8. March 4<sup>th</sup>** - Public Hearing (Required as per MPC)
- 9. March 11<sup>th</sup> – April 25<sup>th</sup>** - 45 Day Comment Period Begins (Required as per MPC)
- 10. April 25<sup>th</sup>** – 45 Day Adoption Date – As per the Municipalities Planning Code an Ordinance will be required to adopt the Official Map.
- 11. May 1, 2019** - Lehigh Valley Greenways Grant Project Completion Date

## **Plainfield Township Conservation by Design Development Ordinance Proposed Revisions**

1. The short term conservation development revisions were sent to the Planning Commission for review with the goal of passing the revisions 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.

## **EIT for Open Space**

- Grand Central Woods - On October 30<sup>th</sup> Township Manager Tom Petrucci, Brian Cope, Adrienne Fors, Scott Perin, Chris Stroller, and Tom Petrucci walked the area known as Grand Central Woods in order to review the area for the possibility of preserving the land.

## **Northampton County Farmland Preservation and County/Municipal Partnership Program**

- **Biosolid Application on Preserved Farmland** - It was reported that Northampton County Executive Lamont McClure is not happy with the response from the Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Farmland Preservation regarding the application of bio solids on preserved farmland. The County previously submitted a proposed addendum for consideration. Executive McClure intends to pursue the matter further.

## **Proposed Biosolids Legislation**

**Proposed PA Senate Bill 1243** from Senator Mario Scavello's office was introduced on September 10, 2018. The legislation addresses Biosolids and is very similar to proposed **PA House Bill 2281 a Biosolid Material Municipal Regulation Act** - The Act provides for municipal regulation of the deposit, disposal or land application of biosolid material; and requiring a public referendum under certain circumstances. As reported at the October 2018 EAC meeting Tom Petrucci is working on a letter of recommendations to be sent to the State Legislators.

East Brunswick Township has a biosolids ordinance passed in October of 2009. Never Done Farm wants to spread biosolids. The Confer family owns the farm. Kathleen Confer went to the Attorney General and the Ordinance has been challenged for its legality. The Attorney General references the Right to Farm Act and Acre Law in his review.

## **Zoning Revisions and Tree Protection Ordinance**

A public hearing was held at the October Board of Supervisors meeting. A group of residents questioned the ordinance revisions for tree protection. Due to the concerns raised the document has been sent back to Charlie Schmehel, VP at URDC for review and revision. The Township will review the potential revisions and another hearing will need to be held in the future.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

No new business was discussed.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Jane Mellert attended the October 16, 2018 – Monacacy Creek Watershed Association meeting at Illick's Mill in Bethlehem. Landstudies, Inc. located in Lititz, Pennsylvania (an innovated stream restoration consulting firm) gave a public presentation.

**November 14, 2018 – A Stormwater Solutions Discussion Panel Forum** will be held. Geoff Reese from LVPC will be facilitating the conversation, with many other municipal officials in place. The event will be at the Allentown Brew Works, 812 Hamilton St, Allentown, PA 18101, starting at 5:30pm.

**PUBLIC COMMENT - None**

**MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion - Meeting Adjournment** – A motion was made by Bob Cornman and seconded by Robin Dingle to adjourn the EAC meeting at 9: 12 pm.

**Vote: 7 Yes**

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane Mellert, Secretary  
Plainfield Township EAC