

**Plainfield Township  
Environmental Advisory Council Meeting  
October 5, 2020**

Due to COVID – 19 Regulations in place in the State of Pennsylvania, the Plainfield Township Environmental Advisory Council meeting was held by Zoom and/or phone connection on Monday, October 5, 2020 at 7:00 pm.

Those in attendance were:

Terry Kleintop, EAC Chairperson late on call in	Robert Cornman – EAC Member
Robin Dingle – EAC Vice Chairperson	Robert Simpson – EAC Member
Bruce Rabenold – EAC Member	Stan Shelosky – EAC Member
Jane Mellert, EAC Secretary and Member	Tom Petrucci – Plainfield Twp. Manager

**Also in attendance –**

**Vice Chairperson Robin Dingle opened the meeting at 7:10pm.**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm and the pledge of allegiance was performed.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**Motion – March 2, 2020 Minutes** - A motion was made by Robert Cornman and seconded by Bruce Rabenold to approve the March 2, 2020 minutes..

**Vote: 6 Yes**

**MEETING BUSINESS**

**Little Bushkill Creek Watershed Management Plan 2021 – Proposed Action Plan with the following Exhibits:**

- **Exhibit A – Model Onlot Sewage Management Program Ordinance**
- **Exhibit B – Chapter 22 Subdivision and Land Development Section 22-1023 Riparian and Wetland Buffers**

The plan was prepared by Township Manager Tom Petrucci and dated September 24, 2020. Manager Petrucci lead the review of the contents of the document. The comments regarding the plan follow:

- **A draft sample Onlot Sewage Management Program Ordinance which is currently under review as part of the Act 537 Plan update was attached as Exhibit A.** Terry Kleintop suggested utilizing other programs which are already in place in other municipalities as a template. Jane Mellert asked if she could submit comments regarding the draft ordinance by email.
- **Official Map – Completed** -An Official Map has been completed and went through the adoption process at the Board of Supervisors.
- **Open Space Program** – Plainfield Township should consider the development of a program to provide for the preservation of natural areas. The EAC discussed accepting applications and developing a ranking system.

- **Plainfield Township should consider revisions that would improve current ordinance requirements for the protection and restoration of riparian buffers.** Communication with Wind Gap Borough Officials should be started to discuss what measures the Borough could require to participate in the restoration and protection of riparian buffers. It was suggested that a meeting should take place between designated Officials from Plainfield Township and Wind Gap Borough in order to make an effort to cooperate and coordinate an action plan. Bruce Rabenold noted an ongoing dialogue needs to take place between the municipalities.
- **Plainfield Township should work closely with the Northampton County Conservation District, United States Department of Agriculture, to ensure that farms within the Township are meeting manure management plans, Nutrient Management Plans and/or Conservation Plans and implement the plans to protect local wetlands and waters.** Terry Kleintop noted the Northampton County Farmland Preservation Office should also be utilized since the office conducts annual inspections on preserved farms. Public meetings with Ag Educators should be held and grants should be applied for which could help farmers make corrections. Robin Dingle noted the program should be implemented when possible.
- **Educational Materials** - The Township continues to update its educational materials for stormwater/MS4 on a regular and ongoing basis. This is a MS4 Program requirement. The EAC could assist in developing materials for publication.
- **ACT 537 Plan – The plan update is in progress.** The Plainfield Township Planning Commission and the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission must review the draft plan prior to it going to the Board of Supervisors for adoption.
- **An evaluation of stormwater management needs should be conducted within Plainfield Township and Wind Gap. It may be a significant challenge to implement stormwater Best Management Practices in pre-existing developments.** This could be difficult to implement. Grant funding may help.
- **Little Bushkill Stream Monitoring** – Continue to monitor all listed stream segments with the goal to delist for pathogens where applicable. It was noted in March of 2020 the Board of Supervisors requested a scaled back stream sampling plan. The Board would like to review and consider funding for long term repairs and restoration measures. **Robin Dingle noted the ultimate goal is to de-list the identified potential problem areas which could be moved forward. There needs to be consistency in data. Consider budgeting to test the priority areas. Terry Kleintop noted there is a need for big time funding. Stan Shelosky noted areas should be identified in order to start the program moving forward.**

Tom Petrucci will make revisions to the document and will fine tune pages six (6) and seven (7).

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

#### **MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion - Meeting Adjournment** – A motion was made by Bob Cornman and seconded by Stan Shelosky to adjourn the EAC meeting at 9:00 pm.

**Vote: 6 Yes**

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane Mellert, Secretary  
Plainfield Township EAC