

I. OPENING

CALL TO ORDER: The Environmental Advisory Council meeting of Lower Saucon Township was called to order on Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at 6:31 p.m., with Sandra Yerger, presiding.

ROLL CALL

Members: Sandra Yerger, Dru Germanoski, Allan Johnson, Ann Spirk, Cindy Oatis, and Laura Ray (6:40 p.m.).

Associate Members: Michael Boyle and Tom Carocci.

Jr. Council Member: Bela Silverman (6:35 p.m.)

Staff: Stacy Werkheiser

Absent: Associate Members: Nicholas Lynn, Glenn Kaye, and Kaitlyn O'Connor Sommers. Hellertown Representative, Terry Boos.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION – None

II. OPEN SPACE SUB-COMMITTEE

A. PROPERTY UPDATES – Sandy indicated there is information in the packet regarding property #2022-01. This is the first one for this year. Sandy reminded everyone that we will only reference the property by the number on the agenda. Sandy handed out packet and they now need to approve if we are going to send the team out. Dru reviewed some of the information and said this is a property that they should take a look at and score it. Dru said he will make the arrangements with the team to go out.

MOTION BY: Sandra Yerger moved to have the Open Space Sub-Committee go out and score the property and come back to the EAC Council with the information.

SECOND BY: Michael Boyle

Dru added it has been a while since the committee scored a property, and he wanted to confirm that Mike, Kaitlynn, Cindy and himself are on the sub-committee. Dru said he will email everyone with their availability and pull together the geology and the soils.

ROLL CALL: 5-0 (Laura Ray - Absent)

A discussion surrounding the property was done, and Sandra Yerger said the motion to score property #2022-01 was unanimous.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. REORGANIZATION

1. NOMINATION OF CHAIRMAN

MOTION BY: Mr. Carocci moved to nominate Sandra Yerger as Chairman for 2022.

SECOND BY: Mr. Boyle

ROLL CALL: 6-0

2. NOMINATION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

MOTION BY: Mr. Johnson moved to nominate Dru Germanoski as Vice-Chairman for 2022.

SECOND BY: Mr. Carocci

ROLL CALL: 6-0

3. NOMINATION OF SECRETARY

MOTION BY: Mr. Carocci moved to nominate Laura Ray as Secretary for 2022.

SECOND BY: Mr. Germanoski

ROLL CALL: 6-0

4. DESIGNATION OF EAC MEETING – TIME, DATE & PLACE

MOTION BY: Mr. Germanoski moved to have the 2nd Tuesday of the month, at Town Hall, starting at 6:30 p.m. Sandy wanted to point out that the date of November 8th is Election Day, so the November meeting will be the 3rd Tuesday, November 15th.

SECOND BY: Mr. Boyle

ROLL CALL: 6-0

III. NEW BUSINESS

- B. ACCEPT RESIGNATION OF ATOM KALLEN** - Sandy let everyone know letters were sent to Atom thanking him for his service to EAC.

MOTION BY: Mr. Boyle moved to accept the resignation of Atom Kallen.

SECOND BY: Mr. Germanoski

ROLL CALL: 6-0

- C. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBER, ANN SPIRK** – Sandy said we have the pleasure of a new member. Ann introduced herself and gave her background about her family, and she is excited to get involved to give back to the community. Sandy also shared some information about her background with Ann and how she became involved with preserving her family’s property.

- D. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR 2022** – Sandy said she assumes some of their goals will be the Electronic Recycling and the Land Conservation Workshop for 2022. She asked for feedback from the group if they have other ideas, and also to think about them and bring back for discussion. Sandy asked the group if they want to continue with the roadside cleanup on Reading Road. She asked if they wanted to continue, and added that the trash has gotten better over the years since they have been doing. Michael added that the intersection at 378 close the Township could use a cleanup because there is a lot trash as it has a lot of visibility. Michael said maybe we do Reading Road once a year and find another location to do. Sandy said she can ask Roger and see if he has feedback since they are on the Township roads. Laura added the intersection at 378 may not be safe as well. Laura asked for the 5-year plan from past, and Stacy will look for this and bring it back to future meeting.

IV. DEVELOPER ITEMS – None

V. UPDATES/REPORTS

- A. ELECTRONIC RECYCLING FOR SPRING 2022- AVAILABLE DATES** – Confirmation of the November 12th event date was discussed. Sandy said we will start getting this out to the public for advertisement. Stacy added the packet that was included in this packet is on the next Council agenda. Dru added again that the National Honor Society at Saucon Valley High School has students who need the volunteer hours, and November would be better for them. A discussion was had regarding how the students can be utilized in many different ways. Dru said that maybe students can put together a nice flyer explaining parameters, this way if there is a fee associated with certain items. Also, if they were there, they can help educate the residents on the details. Cindy said there were handouts at the last meeting, and RRS will provide a flyer with our name on it. Sandy said this should be approved by Council. Cindy will work on this and send it. Sandy said this way we can place in our newsletter and have it in Town Hall. Discussion re: confirming residency regarding the reimbursement. Bela added that she, along with other students are eager for volunteer hours so anything they have for students to help, they are willing. Sandy said she will take this back to Council in March, and confirm that everything has gone through.

- B. LAND CONSERVATION MAILING AND WORKSHOP FOR 2022** – Sandy reviewed list that was compiled, and said they did this in past when they did a previous mailing. The list is 20 acres plus in Lower Saucon Township of 87 properties. The letter would be included in the mailing informing them on the workshop. Laura Baird is on board with this. Letter to residents was reviewed and they would have to R.S.V.P. to the event. Sandy said they can with our Zoning Officer on this as well. Sandy shared the information from Laura Baird on the workshops that she has done in other communities that have been very successful. The success is due to the workshops where residents are able to fully understand the program before they sign any forms.

Sandy added that Laura is working with many other adjacent Townships. She discussed possible properties that may cross lines we can look into. A date was discussed to have the workshop. Dru suggested to use one of the future EAC meeting dates, and May 10th was decided. Sandy said they may want to move the start time to 7:00 p.m. to accommodate working schedules. Sandy will take it to the next Council meeting for review.

Laura reviewed the documents that would be included in the mailing and made suggestions. Sandy said she will review with Laura Baird regarding updating the tax incentives. Laura made other suggestions to modify in the letters. More specifically, to add the word “potentially” in the letter to residents.

Sandy said she agrees with the 20 acres, but she would like to sit down with our Zoning Officer to look at the map that was handed out at the meeting. There may be, especially looking at the natural resources, smaller properties that are adjacent to some of the bigger properties that may be critical in preserving. She would like to send those residents the letter as well. She will bring the information back at the next meeting. Dru said they gave the Watershed database..... Sandy said she wanted to look at that too, and see if they can superimpose the property lines on these. Sandy said preserving our clean water is huge, and also mitigating the flooding is also huge. Dru said he understands, tomorrow night (February 9th) at 7:00 p.m., a forester is going present a plan for forest management of the Hellertown Watershed property. He said that may come before us at a certain point. He said he understands this forester was hired to evaluate the properties that are within the watershed boundaries that they manage to get recommendations for healthy management of the forest. That is all he was aware of, but if an action plan was developed, he said they will see it because it is Lower Saucon Township, and he was going to try to go there tomorrow. Sandy said we have looked at timbering projects in the Township, and Dru agreed. Dru said he didn’t see any formal announcements on this, but he has heard this from two different directions.

VI. OLD/MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

A. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 14, 2021 MINUTES

MOTION BY: Allan Johnson moved to approve the minutes as presented.
SECOND BY: Laura Ray
ROLL CALL: 6-0

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS – None

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY: Dru Germanoski moved for adjournment. The time was 7:10 p.m.
SECOND BY: Sandra Yerger
ROLL CALL: 6-0

Sandra B. Yerger, Chair