

I. OPENING

- A. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Environmental Advisory Council meeting of Lower Saucon Township was called to order on Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. with Dru Germanoski, presiding.
- B. **ROLL CALL: Members:** Dru Germanoski, Jennifer Helton, Laura Ray, Allan Johnson, Cheyenne Reiman (7:06 p.m.); **Associate Members:** Kathy Pichel McGovern (6:35 p.m.), Winfield Clark, Russell Sutton, Chad Heimbecker. **Staff:** Carol Schneider; **Absent Jr. Council Member:** Harrison Vicic; **Absent:** Members: Ann Spirk & Thomas Carocci; Associate Member: Janine Bohnam; **Guests:** Maia Simon, Scott Douglas, Aimee Douglas & Tim Steely.
- C. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- D. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF APPLICABLE)** – None

- II. **PUBLIC COMMENT** - Dru said that Maia Simon was at the meeting on behalf of the Parks & Recreation Board to talk about Pennsylvania invasive plants, and he would rather they listen to her first, rather than have her have to listen to all of our business for a couple of hours or so.... Carol interjected and asked if Cathy Gorman could speak for a few minutes. Cathy said she would be quick, she said that she noticed in the previous meetings that there were discussions regarding specific complaints from people regarding specific properties. She said that she would ask, and you can have conversations regarding things in a general way, but if it is something very specific, she would defer that complaint/question to zoning or maybe tell the resident to communicate that subject with our zoning office. She said she didn't want the EAC committee putting themselves in a position where people might think that the EAC was an enforcing body, and she didn't want to put the EAC in that position. She thought it would be more appropriate for those conversations to be handled by the zoning department. If there's something that occurs, that may be a recommendation in the zoning ordinance, or if something should transpire, that would be more of a conversation. She said that she thinks that would be more in general from you from your committee, but identifying a specific parcel or specific problem might be more appropriate to be kicked to zoning so they can do the enforcement end of it. Dru said thank you Cathy.

Kathy Pichel-McGovern arrived at 6:35 p.m.

Maia Simon said that she's on the Parks and Recreation board. She said that she lives on Bingen Road, over on the Bingen side. She said that the Parks and Recreation Board has taken on a project to identify the invasive plants in the parks, they don't expect to get it all done this summer, but they've put together some technology to identify invasive plants by GPS coordinates. She said the plan is to identify and map invasive plants in the Township by the end of the summer, she's hoping to cover enough ground that they can extrapolate the rest of the 150 acres or so and submit a grant request to DCNR, she said that they will pay 80% of the cost of removing invasive plants. She just wanted the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) to know that the Parks & Recreation Board will be doing this. She said, if anyone would want to help, that would be wonderful. She said some people think this is an EAC job, and she's sure it would be if you had fewer things on your plate. She said it is clear in the description of Parks and Rec. that they are responsible for the vegetation in the parks, she said she wanted to just take one minute to put together the document she had, it actually has a couple more pages now on Pennsylvania invasive plants. She said all of this comes pretty much verbatim from DCNR. She said, you know, there's no opinion about whether these are invasive plants. DCNR says they are and it has some information about why it's important, and so on, and then there's a page, sometimes more than one page for each plant. She said there's a page on bamboo, for instance, and there's a page for Japanese knotweed. She said she wanted to ask if the group would consider putting this document on the township website and let people know that it's available, it has how to identify them, how to manage knotweed, how to get rid of them. She said, because the more people who know that the township is overrun with multiflora rose and Japanese (etc.), then the more likelihood they will be able to make headway in reducing that. She said she had two more things she wanted to add to this, and then she'll send you back to Dru. She asked if she could have their email addresses or if she could email someone the information and they could review whether or not it's appropriate to put it on the website, because she thinks that it's their purview and not the PR. She said, thank you very much for listening to what she had to say, they didn't want you to think we were stepping on your toes either with their invasive plant identification project, which she expected will outlive her.

Jennifer said that the Saucon Creek Watershed Association could add this and assist PR with the project. Maia said that sounds great, thanks. Chad asked how they were going to do this? Maia said, we're going out with two

apps. One of the apps is the PictureThis app., which we will use to identify the plants, and the other app is the pin drop app, she said they don't actually have to do it all at once, if someone doesn't want to do both pieces (apps.), or it's possible to take a photograph (as long as your location is in the photograph), and send it to her, that way she can add it to pin drop. She said they can do a pin drop in the field, that's great, but if she winds up doing it, that's fine, too. And then and then they will have the ability to print. She said that she didn't know whether they will have the ability to print. They will have maps with GPS coordinates of where the multiflora rose and where the Tree of Heaven is and she's going to capture some of the native plants too. She said that's not the purpose. The purpose is identifying the invasives, and then when they get some money to remove them, they will be talking about a project to replace them with natives.

Chad asked if Maia started implementing the project? Maia said, not yet, they are barely getting rolling, just at the onset. They were going to try to go out as a group at their May meeting and they weren't able to. They will set a date at the June meeting for a trial run in the field. She said some members did download the software and did a test run. She said if everything goes according to plan, they will invite the public and anybody else to join, and they might even publish a protocol of just taking the pictures and sending them to her. Maia asked if there any other questions?

Chad said he had more of a comment or an observation when Maia brought this up with the GPS coordinates, it just reminded him of geocaching. He said that he didn't know if anyone else was familiar, but people are already out using GPS coordinates to look for things that would be cool if they also were looking for invasive plants, and then just be like, hey, look, there was one here. He said that in some places there's a trailhead that has a sign that will tell you about invasive species or lanternfly signage. He asked if there was any consideration of maybe having that kind of signage put up on any of the parks where the community can identify these themselves? Maia said, that's a really good idea, we're planning on putting QR code's out for public comments about the parks, we could expand. She said that hasn't happened yet. She said that they were just starting to look at that, you would have to scan the QR code at the park for information or report something broken in the park. Chad asked what her thoughts were about having a QR code about invasive plants? Chad said that people would scan it and it would take them to a document or a map if you're using a software that they can connect to or maybe a contact page where they could upload the images right from there. Maia said that she loved that idea. Chad said a variety of resources could be on a quick landing page. Maia said that she would much prefer that to an email. Dru said, we'll be very happy to work with you in any way that is helpful. Maia said, great, wonderful questions, thank you. Dru said, great thanks, Maia. Maia said, you're very welcome, thank you for hearing me.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. COMMENTS ON THE 04-08-2024 UPPER SAUCON TOWNSHIP - PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO TOWNSHIP COMPREHENSIVE RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE PLAN - See comments under B for both A & B

B. COMMENTS ON THE 04-04-2024 SPRINGFIELD COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FINAL DRAFT

Dru said, under New Business items, A and B are related insofar as their requests for us to comment if we feel an urge to. One being the Upper Saucon Township Comprehensive Recreation and Open Space Plan and then the other document was 105 pages, the Springfield Township Comprehensive Plan, which he said he clicked on it from the agenda and looked at it, and actually they're required to reach out to the contiguous, surrounding townships to share a comprehensive plan like this, soliciting comments. He said should we feel encouraged to comment? From his standpoint, he thought both sets of these documents were fine and were helpful. He didn't see these as issues to comment on in any negative standpoint whether it's appropriate for them to reach back to the two groups and say that they thought these plans looked good, whether that's helpful to them or not. He said that he opened that possibility for discussion. He said he did have a question, they're hard to follow when they're talking about their parcels, and the best he could figure out, they were close to lower Saucon Township, but they weren't in Lower Saucon. He said that he guess's his question was, and it's just a question is, is it worth everybody's time, effort and energy to say, is there an impact on any of your proposed parcels to Lower Saucon Township, or is it sort of a given that it's just like being a good neighbor and just telling you what's going on and what's happening with the open space. He didn't think we have to veto anything or make comments of that sort, like when the EAC would judge a property within Lower Saucon Township for

open space that's basically within their purview. He didn't think it was in our purview, to raise issues with their preservation of any parcels, he would think more so in the spirit of them preserving these properties that that's in alignment with their ethics, he would just ask if there were any parcels that were adjoining, kind of like what you're asking that maybe you've talked last time about the desire to keep these as larger, contiguous, open spaces, and if there's a way to collaborate with them on where they're planning on doing this, that might help us. He said, he thinks with open spaces, if they know exactly where the parcels are, then that might influence their scoring or judgment of any parcels within the township that they could certainly view that as a positive attribute, that there's adjacent open space. He said his problem was with the Upper Saucon Township (UST), they only got piecemeal (map was missing from the packet he was looking at). He asked if they could get a full copy of Upper Saucon's plan? Dru asked Carol if she could reach out to UST and request a map that identifies where these parcels are, and just tell them in the spirit of us evaluating open space. Carol said that she could reach out to them and then Jennifer found the map on the table, Carol made more copies and handed them out. Dru asked if anyone had any comments? Dru said that he can work with Carol to reach out to these two townships and say that we didn't see any problems or issues with their comprehensive plans, and then move to the next item on the agenda.

- C. **SPRINGTOWN SOURCE WATER PROTECTION** - Dru said, Jennifer brought this to our attention last month, and we agreed to put it on the agenda for this month. Back in 2006 Springfield Township contracted Spot, Stevens and McCoy a groundwater and environmental Consulting firm, to develop the Springtown Source Water Protection Plan for their springs and their water supply. The report has been available in your copies in your packet and it's been it's available as a PDF. He said that he also requested the figures, because he considers them to be essential. He said he'll try to give a brief summary. He said, first of all, some of you may recall, some of you were on the committee, Allan certainly recalls a number of years ago, he had a student do a thesis and modeled the surface water and groundwater flow in Lower Saucon Township. Spot, Stevens and McCoy did similar testing for the Springfield Township, Source, water supply and their model results, they modeled the groundwater flow and their model results. We overlapped with them in so far as a part of Lower Saucon Township extends into that watershed. He said that his student modeled the groundwater flow basically north of the water divide formed by Kolberg Hill (if you we're familiar with Kolberg Hill), it's the ridge that's just north of Springtown, and then it sheds water to the north into the Polk Valley system and Hellertown water supply. Their model results were similar to ours. He said he'll keep the comments restricted to the Springtown hydro situation, that is, that ridge is underlain by Precambrian age, gneiss amorphic rock. He said basically, all of the rocks in the watershed and in Lower Saucon Township, none of them have what we would consider to be significant intergranular porosity, porosity between the crystals, in the case of igneous or metamorphic rocks, or between cemented sands, sand grains in a sandstone. All of these rocks rely on fracture porosity to a significant extent. In the metamorphic rocks, it's almost completely fracture porosity that's important in the carbonate rocks, the limestones that underlie the Valley of Springtown and underlie the valleys in Lower Saucon Township, they're underlain by carbonate rocks, dolomite and limestone. He said, they are sedimentary rocks. In addition to fractures, they have bedding plane partings and bedding plane porosity. And then furthermore, because they're carbonate rocks, they're soluble. They can have caverns, conduits and dissolution enhancement of fractures and bedding planes. As a rule of thumb, the carbonates are the best aquifers in this area. The other thing he could say about both the township and the Springtown scenario is the models relied on topography. Quite significantly, the uplands in this whole region are underlain by these Precambrian rocks. They're more resistant to weathering and erosion. So, all of the uplands, whether you call them hills or mountains, in Lower Saucon Township, are underlain by these metamorphic rocks, including South Mountain to the north here, where Lehigh University is located. All the hills in the Township, Focht Hill, Gaffney Hill, Kerchberg, Kolberg, Church Hill, all of them are underlain by those rocks. So those rocks being the uplands and being fractured and have fracture porosity, they're basically the groundwater recharge zones. Water flows from these uplands into the lowlands, and they are the sources of the springs that Springtown relies on in the same way that Hellertown water supply relies on similar springs on their property. He said, so that's the basic hydrogeologic story, and so, we have with us, Scott and Amy Douglas, who, Amy, as he understands, was on the Springtown Water Board. Scott was on the Springtown Township EAC when this report was commissioned, and so, the question that they want to

raise for us to consider and discuss was a question of whether we would recommend that Lower Saucon Township sign on to the water supply source protection area. Dru said, if you would Scott, we welcome comments from you to better elaborate on this subject. Scott said, Marna Wood (Supervisor in Springfield) asked him to come. She sends her regrets, she would be here, but they have a supervisor's meeting going on in Springfield, so unfortunately it was a conflict. He said his name was Scott Douglas and he's currently the president of the Cooks Creek Watershed Association and a former chairman of the Springfield Township Environmental Advisory Council. He said he was on Council when this study was commissioned, and a former chairman of the Springfield Township Planning Commission. He said that he understood that you were at a graphic drawing deficit. He apologized for that and said that it's probably a version issue more than anything else. The study was done a while ago, and things have changed, but he has something for you to look at that he thinks is the key figure of concern, and he got it supersized. He said, what you're looking at is a portion of the black line is the outline of the Cooks Creek Watershed in the area of Springtown. He pointed out Springtown, Polk Valley, and Hellertown. He said just so you get an idea of where you're and what he wanted to call your attention to. He said, as Dru pointed out, there was modeling done as part of this work. He said, this is a standardized Source Water Protection Plan exercise. PADEP has criteria that they've set up how to protect source water, not for the creek, but for the drinking water wells. He said this is a very standardized study, and what you're looking at, or this spot here is our well. He said that Amy can speak to the Water Authority's facilities, and this is the well behind the Firehouse. He pointed out the two springs that were there and a water tank. He said the water tank feeds all of the 200 folks who rely on the Springtown Water Authority to provide water. Allan asked where the water tank was and Scott showed him where the water tank was located. Scott showed everyone where the springs were located above the tanks. Scott described that you would drive up from Springtown, right, right off of Martins Lane, he said that's where the springs were. He said that you can see Kolberg Hill was mapped there and pointed to the whole ridge top. (Cheyenne arrived) This is Kolberg Hill, which is the recharge area so, but this is the water divide. He said, so surface water flows this way into the Cooks Creek watershed, or that way into the Saucon Creek Watershed. He said, the surface water groundwater, as Dru can explain to you, doesn't necessarily follow that, it can cross those boundaries. And so, that's what you see right there. He said, okay, what do the colors mean? He said, well, the way that PADEP has you do this is you set up three different zones around your source, zone one, zone two and a zone three, and all the three zones are based on their ability to influence what's going on in that well. He said, so what you want to know is, where is the water coming from that gets drawn into the well or comes up in the spring well? He said, one goes one way, one goes the other, right? He said, what you want to know is, where, what is that zone of influence? He said, there's a cone of depression around a well and if you draw on a well, it sucks the groundwater table down into a cone to go into the well, and then gets pumped out. He said, springs kind of work the opposite way, but it's a similar principle. Scott said, Dru, jump in if I start saying things that offend you. He said that he is not a groundwater hydrologist. He said, then what they do is they say this a red zone right immediately around this draw. He said, whether it's a spring in this case or a well, in this case, they call that zone one. That's the most critical zone. That's if you spill something in that water, it's going in the well. Then there's a zone two, which is a little bit more influenced by what goes on immediately around it. If you've got things going on where water is being transported on the surface and then might infiltrate it in that immediate area, that's the zone two, and then zone three is everything that the hydrogeologist believes would eventually work that way. He said it's the aquifer under which it's being drawn, or, in the case of springs coming from...Dru said those springs actually are still in the Precambrian age metamorphic rocks. He pointed to the recharge area and said that it was the direct source of the spring, as well as the upland areas feeding into the carbonate aquifers as well. He said, your well, which is lower, is located further down, topographic gradient, it is likely also fed by the same recharge area, which is in Lower Saucon Township. Kathy asked, where's lower Saucon Township? That's what I felt like that. Scott said, here's the Bucks County line right here. Okay, right? So, yeah, don't get confused by the watershed line, and then the model lines, and then where the township line is right here. He said this is Springfield and this is Lower Saucon Township, so you've got quite a bit of area here. Kathy asked if the line she was pointing to was Northampton? She said she's just thinking of all the people in Lower Saucon Township that have wells, that's why she's clarifying, because she sees Polk Valley from here, but you've got that whole Wassergass area, that's all...Dru said, but that's draining the Polk Valley there. Aimee said everyone outside of the village on wells, it is only the village

of Springtown. There we only have 236 metered users on our water authority, the water authority was created back at the end of the 1800, because the water here in town have been contaminated by septic. She said, so there was a private water system set up, which is evolved over time, etc, and is now currently the Springtown Water Authority. So, everyone outside of this village is on well also, yes, but these people rely on the water authority for their drinking water, and this is especially this spring is completely in Lower Saucon Township and she was looking at the figures from the past couple of years, and 2023 for the fiscal, for the calendar year we drew over 11 million gallons from our springs, was what was used, versus only 900,000 from the well. This year, through March, we have used the well zero. All of our water, drinking water has come from those springs. And if you look at 2022, it was very similar, about 13 million. She said she was sorry, she messed up her numbers. But 13 million, 12 million of which came from the spring, and 1 million from the well. She said they really depend on those springs as the main source of the water that they're using for drinking water in Springtown. Scott said, what we did with in low in Springfield Township, when we got this study back, or let me call your attention to what these were considered to be potential sources of contamination. He said they were identified in the report as places that we should reach out to and talk to about the fact that they're let them know they're in, they're in a water source water area, draw area, and that they should take, you know, particular attention to any time that something gets spilled, or, you know, be careful of what they're doing, that they could influence their neighbors in ways that they didn't anticipate. Jennifer asked if Scott knew if the outreach was done? Scott said yes, it was, there was a whole outreach program that the township did, they send flyers around, they talked to people back then. Allan asked if they have identified any sources of contamination in this area? Scott said, no. Allan said, he imagined you test your water. Aimee said yes. Allan asked if she found any contaminants that you're concerned about? Aimee said, not at all, not at this point, we'd like to keep it that way. She said, the whole area is wooded up there. Allan said, well, not all, some is farmland and homes with septic systems. Aimee said, just these houses here, but I mean a fair amount in this area. Allan said, this stream, the headwaters of this stream is a big white area up in here, and fortunately, there's not too many houses around there, there's a couple. Aimee said, yes, we test our water daily. Allan said, well, what he's saying is, you want us to agree to something? Scott said, no, no, let's not get ahead of ourselves. Allan said, he doesn't think we should agree to too much with all of our people living here, all of whom have pollution sources, and this is your most important source of water. Jennifer said, she thinks they need to finish their presentation. Scott said, so what Springfield Township did when he was on the Planning Commission, they adopted this plan by ordinance or by reference into the ordinance. So, there's a there's a separate, standalone part of our zoning ordinance that says that this plan, was adopted and accepted by Springfield Township. There's a series of recommendations. If you read the plan, there's a series of recommendations. They're standard recommendations that come from PADEP for source water. He said, there's nothing in here that was like, it didn't go any further than what PADEP recommended. It wasn't about trying to do environmental stewardship, it was more about, PADEP strongly recommending, that every public water authority do one of these studies, and then try to protect as best you can the water, the source water for that system, because if you ended up in a situation where you've got contamination, you could be shut down. And PADEP has not been very supportive of this because it's surface water, they've always been very skeptical that we can keep it clean enough to be drinking water. He said, they've been very fortunate that it has been we haven't, as Aimee said, we haven't had any violations, so that's a good thing, but this came up as part of the comprehensive plan that we just did, and you guys just got one from Upper Saucon, and you probably got one from us. Jennifer said, yes. Scott said, you know that this came up as part of the discussion as to what is happening with this and what we should do with it in Springfield Township, and then Lorna suggested, well, do we know what happened here? And the only thing that he can remember, and this was dim, and unfortunately, the person that he would need to ask is no longer with us, but Hans, he thinks, brought this in front of the EAC when it was done. He said, he thinks you had it at one point. He said that he didn't know where it went. Laura and Jennifer agreed. Jennifer said it was not included in this packet, but it was to everybody, and it basically did talk about the relationship between the two. Allan said that this was almost 20 years ago, a lot of things have happened in 20 years. Dru said, yes, with respect to what the study did is look at potential significant courses of sources of contamination, not septic drain fields that, you know, that's a standard land use, that's not going to rise to an identified source of potential contamination, of the significance that they're the threshold significance that they're using. Scott said, right, again, if you look, if you go now, you're probably right.

This study is probably old enough and long enough in the tooth that it should be done, or at least reevaluated. He said, the modeling might not to be redone, but certainly these potential sources of contamination should probably be reevaluated, because things have changed, rightly so, whether or not you know, and whether or not PADEP has changed their recommendations for protection, he didn't know. It's something that they're probably going to get asked by the Board of Supervisors the Springfield Township EAC, he should say he's not on the EAC anymore, but the Springfield Township EAC is probably going to get asked to reevaluate and to update the board as to where we're at with us. So, he thinks that's what's spurring the discussion and trying to find out, what if anything was done here in Lower Saucon after this study was presented to you. he said they're just searching for information at this point, were not asking you to make any decisions. He said, we're just asking you to take a look see if you've got anything, and if you want to work with us to reevaluate, we'd be happy to do that. He said, he's not speaking for the township, he said the watershed association will facilitate that if they can. Kathy said, a lot of members on the EAC are due, did we ever do this for lower Saucon Township? Aimee said, that's what they'd like answered actually. Kathy said, she's asking Jennifer. Dru said not that he's aware of. Laura said, well, we don't have a water authority, oh, we do have a water authority. Allan said, our water comes from water we get from Bethlehem. Dru said, he thinks Hellertown's Water Authority has a similar situation and he has a good friend on the Authority that he can check with. Laura said, that would be good to know, because this would all be in, you know, Hellertown's. Scott said, obviously, nothing, nothing that we passed in Springfield has anything to do with what's going on in Lower Saucon. Kathy said that it would be interesting to know if there are areas in our watershed to have potential contamination, she said she's learning, she's understanding what you're saying, Hellertown Borough focuses on Hellertown Borough, and they get to water from above, she gets that. Laura said, Hellertown gets their water from Lower Saucon. Kathy said, what about the rest of the people? Laura said, we have Hellertown's watershed in Lower Saucon. Dru said, but as far as you know Laura, Lower Saucon Township has not done a comprehensive, he means, when he had his students do the research, they didn't come across any such report or study, he said he would doubt that Lower Saucon did that because we don't have a water authority to serve other than the fact that Hellertown Water Authority relies on Lower Saucon Township's landscape and real estate in geology, but they would have done their own comprehensive plan, which he has on his to do list, to contact his contact on the Hellertown Water Authority and see what they have done. He said he knows they've evaluated their spring flow and so forth. But he's not sure if they have a comprehensive water source water protection plan. Kathy said, she hears you. *There was an inaudible question in the audience* and Dru said that there is some open space in that. Kathy said, she hears you, but you know, Hellertown is sort of in the middle of Lower Saucon, and kind of is like a horseshoe almost, so if Hellertown gets their water from our water source, it's not going to include all of Lower Saucon. Dru said, no, we don't even know for a fact that they even have a Wellhead Protection or springhead protection plan. So as a starting point, I'm going to see if they do that. And then Laura, if you could check on whether lower Saucon township has ever done this, he didn't think they have. Laura said, she didn't think so either. And again, when Zach Benedetto did his research, he would have come across that if it existed, and he worked with people in the township, he worked with the zoning officer at the time, who would have known if that was available, he said he didn't think it was. And what he's saying about lower Saucon is and the same thing with Springtown, because they have public water supply, that's a natural impetus for them to conduct such a study, in the case of Lower Saucon, and they're not driven to do such a thing, other than for the good of the citizens of the township. He's not suggesting it shouldn't be done, he's just saying he doesn't believe it has. Laura said, she doesn't either. Amiee said, you're saying your water that draws, the water authority here draws from Bethlehem? Dru said, or private wells, yes. Kathy said, that's where she's getting hung up. Allan said, our Water Authority draws from Bethlehem, he said that he doesn't think they have anything to do with the wells over on the eastern side of the Township. Dru said, and the fact of the matter is, this is a remarkable thing, we're one of two, no it's one of three, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, is one of three states that has no regulation of private wells. Pennsylvania, Ohio and Alaska, no regulation of water quality, nothing, we're all on our own to have a well driller drill a well, and it's on each private landowner to do water testing and to evaluate whether that water is suitable. It's a remarkable thing. I mean, three states. Allan said, Hellertown, gets a lot of their water from where we live, in the eastern part of Lower Saucon, but they own most of the land. He said most of the land that traps the water, they own it all right? He said there are roads in there, and there's things that have changed

over the years, but they still own most everything, he said he knows where most of their springs are, and it's all on their land. Dru said, and there are houses there, and there are septic systems in that water supply, they're everywhere. The septic system problem is not something you can avoid in a rural landscape of this sort. It's just a feature of the landscape. Allan said, they keep building more houses every time they get a chance, and everyone has a well. He said he didn't know how many, he didn't think too many have been built in this area, but up in this area... Kathy said, up down, yeah, there's a ton in Wassergass. Allan said, he only knows of only one, one that was built over here, one new one. Scott said, his experience with contamination of groundwater that's used for drinking is that septic systems rarely are a problem. They would have to be pretty bad. Now, septic systems can affect surface water that's more of an issue if they're not properly installed or maintained, but affecting groundwater usually, they're designed to evaporate water out. A lot of people think they're recharge, but they're not. Dru said, they mostly always have nitrate impacts, so there is nutrient impact. Scott said, but usually the surface water, its rare, now, farms, on the other hand, can affect the. Nitrates in groundwater. We do have places in the Cook Creek watershed where we've found groundwater contamination, nitrate contamination, from old agricultural practices, not modern. Kathy said, it's the tilling. Chad said, can he ask some questions? He said, if this says, if he's looking at this zone one, zone one, right? Scott said yes. Chad said, and it's talking about, you know, requesting or requiring a range from 100 to 400 feet surrounding the zone that's maintained in a natural state, void of potential sources of contamination, what qualifies as a source of contamination. Are we agreeing that a house with a septic tank is not a source of contamination? or it could be? Scott said, it could be, but that's not, that's not the way that these things usually go. Chad asked, so what is the implication for that, then, for the township residents who are within that? Scott said, within zone one, which is the red area, yeah, there isn't anybody there. Chad repeated, there's no houses there? Allan said it's all farmland. Scott said, again, that's up to you, that's up to how you want to handle it, he didn't think there was anything in here. Allan said, what bothers him is if there's a problem that's our residents that have to have to pay for this. Allan said, it's always been that way for years, you guys have been lucky over the years. Scott said, yes, exactly, but this is not about enforcement, okay, this is about recommendation and suggestion at first. He said, obviously what would be ideal is what Hellertown did. They bought up all the property around their well, problem solved. They don't have to worry about it, right? It would be great if you guys could preserve open space as close to or around this area, and working your way out in that area, that's a that should be on your evaluation criteria. It should, it should count for something. Jennifer said, that does. Chad asked if that was on the open space (the springs)? Laura said that we do have some preserved. Scott said that he would have to go up there and look, he never looked at it for that. You guys have never done a wetland evaluation around your springs, have you? He said that he's assuming there are wetlands up there. Allan said, oh yeah, there are, the big wetlands Right, right above your spring. Dru said, that they looked at some open space properties ago, and there are wetlands and springs, they're there. Scott said, the Watershed Protection Plan for Cooks Creek might have those wetlands identified, he'd have to look, it's been a while since he's looked at those maps and see whether or not that's been delineated, because there was a lot of wetlands delineation done back 20 years ago when we did the watershed protection. Dru said, a lot of those private properties, they have their wetlands and springs there, when we've been asked to look at them, they jump right off. He said, they're obvious, it's usually no surprise, you know. Scott said, well one of the things that he wants to reiterate, just in case there's any confusion, when we adopted, when Springfield Township Planning Commission recommended to the board of supervisors to adopt that plan into the ordinance, it only influences Springfield Township, right? It doesn't have any impact on anything going north of the line, he said, they have no authority there. He said, what you might consider is doing that. He said, take a look at what was passed in the ordinance and the way it's worded, take a look at that, and you can consider that whether or not you want to make that recommendation. He said he leaves this up to you, he's happy to answer any questions about the study and what was done. He said he agrees with you Dru, and it's probably time to revisit this. He also thinks that the EAC is probably going to get asked. Allan asked, do you have a pipe flown from here, underground, down here? Aimee said, she didn't think it went to the tank, it comes into a treatment building where we treat it, and then we put it so it's treated water that's up in the tank. Allan asked if it was an underground pipe from that spring? Aimee said, correct. Allan asked, it's not a surface pipe, it's not a stream, because there's a stream. Aimee said, that's correct and there's also a pipe that is coming down. Dru said, he would say to the other approach is we could only advise our township council to do things or to consider things, he

thinks it was probably more appropriate for your Township, he's not familiar with the language, whether it's township supervisors or council to reach out to Lower Saucon Township, indicating what they've adopted by way of an ordinance, and request the Lower Saucon consider that we could then weigh in, he thinks, as an advisory committee, to say that we think that should be done even in the best interest of Lower Saucon water resources. He said, on the one hand, you're trying to protect your water supply, but this is Lower Saucon Township as a recharge area, and we have to think about the rural landowners in Lower Saucon Township, and it's in their best interest as well for this, for you know, a wellhead spring head protection plan to be adopted. Scott said, he thinks that if Lorna had been here, she might have made that ask, he thinks this is just preliminary. They just wanted to bring this to your attention and find out if, if anything had ever been done back in the day, because Hans isn't here to ask. Dru said, that they will dig into it from this side, and he suspects the best course of action is to now keep the dialog open as you move forward and as we learn more about Lower Saucon Townships plan to evaluate water resources here, in and of itself. Scott said, he was happy to leave the map here. Jennifer asked *an inaudible question*. Scott replied, none of this is, this is, well, it's on a disc, but as you found out, you can't, for whatever reason, the figures aren't on the disc that you got, or they probably are corrupted, or something happened. He said, what needs to happen is, he only has a couple copies, however, he a bunch of discs, he'll check and see if what the issue is. He said that he only has a couple of hard copies left. The rest of them have disappeared over the years, he can certainly make a copy. Dru said, we could have Carol archive this map in the township files with the zoning officer? Carol said yes. Chad said, this says there's a third zone. Scott said, zone one is the orange, zone two is the yellow, zone three is the blue, it's 123, for each 123, and then all of these are the potential sources of contamination that were identified. Scott said, these are the major sources at the time, and they were major ones at the time. Chad said, he thought Aimee said that they didn't water from here this year. Aimee said that they haven't had to draw from it this year. Scott said, it's the back. Dru said, just as recently as the year before you did, right? Aimee said, typically, when we're drawing from the well, it's in the late summer and fall, because the springs have the flow has reduced so much, and then we're pumping from the well, and you know, so it's there to supplement it, and it'll automatically take on the well, when the springs are not supplying the flow, that's necessary. Cheyenne said she had a question, just out of curiosity, what's the average cost of the watershed protection plan that would if the township wouldn't do one, what's the average cost of that between engineering? Scott said, if he gave you the number that it would be so out of whack with what today's dollars would be, this was 20 years ago. Dru said, it would be irrelevant, it's 10's of thousands, \$20,000, \$30,000 something in that round. Aimee said, that this was probably paid by a grant. Scott said that they received a grant from PADEP to do it. Cheyenne said, that's what she was thinking. Scott said, there is definitely money to do this kind of thing, they actually really want you to do this. Cheyenne said, maybe that's something we can have somebody look at to see if there is grant money available just to offset cost, potentially? Chad said, if there was a way to collaborate on preserving and protecting some of that space, he could see, maybe there's way to consolidate resources preserved. Allan said, there is quite a bit preserved, actually. Cheyenne said, its wetlands, is it worth spending the money preserving, like how wet is it would be her question. She said, do you think this is something that could be developed at some point, or is it worth leaving it as is? most of them? Dru said, well, the flip side is, we've all seen remarkable development of places that should be too wet to be developed. Cheyenne said, like the Meadowlands? She said she'd be curious to actually see what the parcels look like. Dru said, one thing that has been useful to us as an open space subcommittee was the fact that we recognize the value of wetlands and groundwater and surface water systems, and so it figures prominently in our scoring system, so, those features alone, have pretty much tipped the balance to any property we've looked at when there are significant hydrologic features, we've never failed to recommend that those sites be preserved. He said, in some cases, landowners change their mind. In many cases, they preserve the properties. Chad asked, what could it mean for some of the agricultural facilities? Scott said, well, the only there was only a couple of farms that were identified in here. Chad said Bechdolt's is pretty big. Scott said, yes, and obviously it's a source, we talked to them and they're aware of where they are and the importance of doing things. He said, you know what they actually did, there's no enforcement teeth to this at all, it's their recommendations. Allan said, that's another thing our zoning for this area allows people to have animals, so many animals per acre of the land they own right now, as far as he knows, nobody has any animals, maybe a couple chickens or something like that. Dru said, he thinks the concern is there's a lot of small there's a lot of small activities, one could open a garage in a place

like this, and right away they have degreasing agents and things that are fundamental, significant sources of groundwater contamination. Again, Alan there, the DEP is not going to start identifying septic individual on lot sewage treatment facilities as a source of contamination. Dru said, the state would be painted red. Scott said, one of the things that happens is that we were able to get signs put up that says that you're entering. He said, he didn't think the signs were still up, but there used to be one as you came down, down the hill towards the firehouse that said you are entering a source water protection area, please report all spills, and they put the number, we had a bunch of those signs put up at one point, however, it was a long time ago, and he's no longer on the EAC. He said, he should probably talk to them about getting that done, but, like he said, this was identified as something in the in the Comprehensive Plan rewrite, so his guess is, that's why it's coming up around. Again, some of us will, will be involved. He's just here because he was the only one left who was on the court at the time and remembers what happened. Dru said, thank you, then, if, if you'll donate the map to our township files, that would be fabulous. Dru said, we could do a little bit of sleuthing on our own to see what's possible. Scott said, if indeed, the board asks the EAC to update that map and reevaluate the current status, we'll probably be back and ask you to collaborate, just like he thinks, on stage. Dru said, again, as usual, when trying to get state grant money, the more townships that are being served, the stronger the proposal becomes, so it becomes mutually beneficial to be cooperative on Watershed Association, he can tell you, as the President, he would be more than happy to give a letter of support to any additional work that gets done in this area. Dru said that he would expect this committee to be supportive of those requests. Scott said, he might be able to find out what's going on with those discs and see if there's PDF. Dru said, thank you very much.

- D. OPEN SPACE SUBCOMMITTEE MOTION** - Dru said, moving on with the agenda. This brings us to item D, the open space subcommittee motion. There were materials in the packet. He hopes everybody took note of that. This basically points out to us that resolution, 3320-24 basically terminated the short-lived open space committee established previously by resolution 3620-23 and in this letter from Cathy Gorman indicated that it is within our purview to reconvene a subcommittee of this committee to serve as an open space committee. We discussed it in reasonable length last meeting. However, one bit of new information that came to light several of us that forward to serve on this is something that we were probably in violation of for years and years, is that only two of these subcommittee members can be voting members of this committee. So, to that end, what he would recommend is that he chair this open space subcommittee because of my experience doing that and with respect to evaluating the natural features, Jennifer expressed a strong interested and he would suggest that as vice chair, she be the other voting member, Cheyenne, he would think would be, it would might be useful to have you as an alternate member. That's a voting member, where, by say, if myself or Jennifer couldn't participate, that you could be a substitute for one or the other of us, and then what we would have to do is recruit another member, a non-voting member of our committee, to do that. He said that Russell was interested. Dru said that he didn't think there was any limitation for us not to have two non-voting associate members. We had, we had non-voting associate members before where this becomes sensible is when we're trying to see we have to keep in mind that when someone puts their property forward for evaluation, we, can't just show up and evaluate their property. He said he would always would coordinate with the landowner for a convenient time. And so, then trying to find a mutually convenient time between the subcommittee members the landowner makes everything a little bit more challenging. So, if we had two associate members serving on this subcommittee. It's going to facilitate getting three people. We have to have a minimum of three people out onto a site to evaluate it. Russell said he retired to. Dru said, he didn't know if this was something they needed to vote on, he supposed they did but just to be sure they're complete, he would move that the Committee be constituted with him as chair, Jennifer as a voting member, Cheyenne as an alternate voting member, and then Russell and Kathy as Associate members. Dru asked if he had a second? Russ second the motion. Dru said, all in favor, okay? All members said, aye.

MOTION BY: Dru moved that the Committee be constituted with him as chair, Jennifer as a voting member, Cheyenne as an alternate voting member, and then Russell and Kathy as Associate members.

SECOND BY: Russell

ROLL CALL: 5-0 (Tom Carocci & Ann Spirk - Absent)

Dru said, this raises another important point, and now he has to rely on Carol and Laura, some institutional memory as best possible. Are there pending properties pending evaluation? Are you aware of anyone who came forward to the township to have their properties evaluated because whatever went, whatever occurred with this other open space committee that's now been terminated? He said that he's totally in the dark of what they might have done, what they might have received by application that they didn't follow through on. Could you, he guessed the simple thing is for me to ask you to check with the zoning officer and the acting supervisor to see if there are any pending properties. And then the natural thing to do then is, if that's the case, then he can get this newly constituted open space committee together, they can go look at properties. He would say ideally, everyone who can participate in one without voting, necessarily, but to serve as a training ground to bring everybody, kind of up to speed with the way that we've done this in the past. Jennifer asked if there was anything they could read or study? Dru said, not that he knows of, there are the open space guidelines at the at the sort of regional or state scale. But ours, we had our own list of criteria, as every township seems, every Open Space Committee seems to do, so we do have the criteria in the scoring sheet. He asked Carol if she could please email everyone on the committee copies of our recent scoring sheet that preceded the establishment of the other committee, because it was very shortly before we were dissolved that we had updated the score issue. He said, he thinks that should be the working document, because that came through with our group discussing it, and in fact, with some outside advice even.

- E. 2024 ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT FOR SEIFERT-RAY (NORTHAMPTON COUNTY) CONSERVATION EASEMENT** - Dru said, Laura maybe it would be helpful to bring us up to speed with why we received this report and what we're supposed to do. Laura said she had no idea why it's in the packet. She said that the property was preserved, and it probably doesn't tell you a year, quite a while ago, 10 years ago, 12 years ago, she didn't remember. She said that we've never had this at an EAC meeting. Allan asked if they ever had an inspection? Laura said, yes, every year they come, but we never had it in our EAC packet. Jennifer asked, if they did this for all the properties? Laura said, so that's why it made me think so. She said, the Heritage Conservancy is the third party on the easement. So, part of them being third party is that they do come and inspect the property every year, and they make sure, she always joked that Wawa didn't get built there, you know, in the in the year, and ruin the easement. So, that's made me think about, you know, we've learned since then that we have a bunch of properties that have conservation easements where third parties weren't put on these easements. And she thinks they should get an inventory of what that is and maybe do some consultation with Heritage's legal consultant (to help them). Maybe they could give them some advice as to whether there's a way to remedy that, or if we can look at the paperwork that we have on the easements, maybe the township itself is able to do some sort of monitoring. She would imagine there should be something. She said she thinks they should look into that, she said she didn't know how many they have that are monitored versus not monitored. Jennifer asked if the heritage conservation always a third party? Laura said, no, it could be anybody, it could any other say the name Wildlands maybe like mass and there's lands, Landtrust or something, Dru said, he didn't think they've ever done anything with Wildlands, though, they tend to be the sole as far as he's aware, or they might partner with another big agency, but they've never, as far as he knows and since he's been involved with any of our open space. Jennifer said, that she agreed, we do need to look at that. She would hate to get into saying, someone has a piece or part of property that is an easement, and she did talk to the zoning manager, and he was this is a big problem, and hasn't been able to get it resolved with everything that has changed, she didn't pursue it so great, because that's a big deal for a property owner not to know they have an easement and the limitations with it. Laura said, right, definitely. Jennifer said, do we do inventory? Laura said, well, we don't have to do, she means, the information exists here in the township, so she guessed that they request that somebody gather that together and they can have a list of what we have, where we have a third party on the easements, what do we have where it isn't, and if it isn't, maybe it'd be nice to have somebody look at that paperwork and see, you know, do we have any ability to have the zoning officer go out and look at the properties? Or she didn't know, because we don't really, once we do easements, we're not reading the contracts here at EAC that's like, kind of past us. Cheyenne asked if it was the third parties' responsibility, though there's a property that trades, and let's say they take a part, like there's multiple parcels, and if they take one out

that goes back to that third party then later on, so at what point are we kind of like, overstepping? Jennifer said, no, what she's saying is they're missing the third party. Laura said, they don't have a third party on the easement. It's just between Township and whoever. Allan said, if he remembers correctly, those third parties are paid for these monitors, so this would be part of the contract, if you know, if it was right. Dru said, it would be useful if we knew the inventory. He said basically, we would request from our zoning officer, who would have, who I would think would have access to these records today. Cheyenne said you better get it today, Laura said, well, we will have somebody, the records aren't going with the guy. Kathy said is there something you know that we don't? Laura said, the zoning officer resigned as of tomorrow. Kathy said, good. Laura said, we will have...yeah, good, and then she also noticed this caught her attention, this report that came into lower Saucon talks about 12.99 acres. She said that there's another other part that's in Bucks County, Springfield Township of this. So, she's wondering if they probably get their own report out of this as well, because there was more than 12.99 acres. She said that was interesting to see. But like she said, we've never had this come to EAC before, because there's, you know, nothing to do. She said, here's where she parked her car, which is not in the easement area. Dru said, he doesn't remember ever seeing this. Laura said, no, we never did. Kathy said, why is it in here? Laura said she didn't know. Chad asked if this was her property? Laura said, yes it actually is. Allan said, isn't the township listed as a party? Laura said, right. Kathy said, maybe the township thinks that we have to review, your contract? Laura said, well maybe there's no contract. Kathy said, there's pictures of your garters snake, she doesn't think it's an eastern garter, western garter. Dru said, when we, get a zoning officer, he thinks they should sort of pseudo table this issue, but they should request an inventory of our open space and additional partnerships. Laura said, just to see where we stand, moving forward, you know, she thinks we should have third party on all of our easements. She said because, you know, you see what can happen. Jennifer said, she thinks it's required. She thought they required it by the state sort party on all equal environmental easement. She said, she'll go back and check her notes. Laura said, no, not that she ever heard of any rule like that. Allan said that he went on one of these monitoring inspections with one of the people from Heritage long time ago, the people that own the easement down there on Coal Lane, or whatever it's called, remember? Laura said, okay, yeah. Allan said that he went on that one guy walked around all over the place. Laura said that she only got to go with one, they've had different guys over the years, and a couple times she went with them, she said that they invite you to on your property but, not for one of those inspections. Dru said, okay, so let's move ahead on the agenda. We still have a lot of work to do here.

- F. **VOTING MEMBER ATTENDANCE** - Dru said, it's a little nerve wracking, for all of us every month to get the multiple emails from Carol, worrying about if we're going to have a quorum, and we had a weather issue the one time, and then another time, something came up that was quite important for a member last minute. And that happens, once before we've had this same conversation a year or two ago, maybe it was two years ago where we had sort of chronic absent members, and it seems like that's happening again. And so, what recourse do we have Laura as liaison. Dru said he doesn't recall exactly what they were able to do last time, whether we had to request council to reach out to those individuals and see if they were still interested. Laura said, it's in our bylaws, the way it's written currently, which, you know, we can still change it. Allan asked if you get a warning letter? Laura said, you can reach out and let them know, she said that she had the Bylaws with her. Kathy said that she was there for that at the end of December of 2023. Laura said, Dr. Kaye. Dru said that wasn't important. Laura said, we had some other people too. Kathy said, that was the process, someone reached out. Laura said, you forgot who they were, even, because you didn't see them for a year, and, you know, so we should look into that. She said, it's in our bylaws that we can change ourselves. Kathy said that she would really like to be a voting member. Dru said that he'll check the bylaws and talk with Cathy, I guess, to see what the appropriate procedures are and then move forward. Kathy said, the difference, though, at the end of December was those people's terms were up, that was the thing, that's why we are reaching out to them, not only did they not attend, but they also were at the end of their term. Dru said, and we're going to be reappointed otherwise. Allan asked, who enforces this business, council? Laura asked, who enforces what? Allan said, like if we decide a certain person that needs to be removed because they haven't been here for so many meetings? He asked again, who is it? Laura said, well, they would be the ones appointing somebody to fill it in then. Dru said, but they can't terminate someone, is that true? Laura said, well? Chad said, if you miss three meetings within a year, or something like that... Dru said, as far

as he knows, we don't have that. Chad said, what about enabling, you know, online access, we've done that before, when somebody wasn't there. Dru said, yes, he's done that. Chad said, we had a call in where we were still able to have that person attend. Dru said, that was at his request. Laura said, members would have to ask for it. Dru said, he requested it as a member. Chad said, maybe that'll help alleviate some of the issues. Dru said, let's just first look into what, what the existing bylaws say. Jennifer said she found her bylaws. Laura said, she was glad you found your copy. Kathy said, Jennifer, use the mic or that big one. Dru said, just rotate mic in the center. Jennifer said, notification one in writing, include the summary of the members or associate's attendance record three, request a person to reply in writing within 20 calendar days or appear in person to the next regular EAC meeting otherwise occurs. Or if it otherwise occurs sooner, if the member associate fails to respond, or if the member or associate replies, in the judgment of the EAC member present at the regular meeting, ending count, indicating nonfeasance in office Lower Saucon Township Council, as the appointed authority, shall be given, shall be notified, given the relevant facts of the matter, with the recommendation that the EAC move to remove the member or associate. So, basically, it's in writing, you include a summary of their attendance record, and then you request in writing, and they have 20 days reply. Dru said, he was trying to find his attendance sheet, he asked, how many meetings did we have this year? He said, we had a January meeting, and in April, and we did March was cancelled, and same with February. Carol mentioned that she gave him the attendance sheet for the meeting. Dru said, yes, he was trying to find his copy. Carol said, it was three meetings. Dru said, that they had three meetings, correct? Laura said, but going back to the prior year (2023) they had cancelled November and December. Dru said, that's the other interesting question, there's the attendance thing, but the frustrating part is, then, how can you account for meetings that weren't held because people weren't attending? You know, all we could go by is the response that Carol receives when she asks who's going to be here or not. Technically, that's not in our bylaws to use that, as you know, evidence of a lack of participation. He said, that's kind of a challenge. Chad said, seven voting members, and we require five or four? Laura said, four. Kathy said, she didn't think it was inappropriate to send a letter and ask if they were still interested in being an active member? She said, whether we've met or not met, you're asking the question, right? Dru said, that he's pretty certain, and Carol can correct me, but he's pretty certain that you know the two individuals who haven't, he didn't think they've attended any meeting this year and didn't respond affirmative that they were going to attend. He said, he didn't see a response that said that they were going to attend. But of course, someone can communicate directly with you without replying to all and simply, that's normally what he does. He would simply tell you directly and not bother everybody else with whether or not he's going to be there or not. And so, at any rate, he thinks it would be appropriate to send a letter. Does someone want to make a motion that we send a letter to the two individuals? Chad said he would make that motion. Dru asked, do we have a second? Kathy second. Dru said, all in favor? Aye. Dru asked Kathy if she could second if you're not a non-voting member? Kathy said, she didn't know. Dru said, he didn't think so. Jennifer second.

MOTION BY: Chad moved to send a letter to send a letter to Ann Spirk and Tom Carocci to see if they were still interested in being members of the EAC.

SECOND BY: Jennifer

ROLL CALL: 5-0 (Tom Carocci & Ann Spirk - Absent)

Laura said, she didn't think they ever went by that though before. Dru said, he didn't recall, but we should be... Kathy said that she rescinded her vote. Laura said that she can't vote, but she can make a motion. Kathy said, okay, but Howard Stern's going to say she... Dru said, Carol, if you could draft such a letter and run it by him... Carol asked for clarification on the two members and Dru said, he thinks the two members are Ann Spirk and Tom Carocci. Carol said, she believes that an email was sent the last time. Dru said, yeah, whatever we did, we should just try to that should be something. Cheyenne said if we're going to be evaluating the bylaws electronic transmissions, it should be something that's included in that, like, specifically that language that basically puts on notice. Dru said good point, we're evaluating them anyway.

G. FALL CLEAN EARTH RECYCLING - Dru asked if everyone was interested in the fall Clean Earth recycling? He said he thinks the question is, do we want to sponsor this? He said he thought they had expressed interest in this in the past, and it's been successful in the township as residents have certainly taken advantage of the opportunity. Dru asked, what are your thoughts about dates? Chad asked what the second date for the landfill? Kathy said that they picked June 1st for the landfill that's in here. Chad said, in October, wasn't it the fifth? Kathy said, it says October, 5th on the agenda. Dru said, the dates that are available are the 28th of September and then they indicated any weekend in October. Cheyenne said, wouldn't it make sense to do the 28th first? And if people are already in that mode of, you know, getting ready, like, they might have a bunch of stuff. And then hopefully they go here first, before they go right to landfill with stuff. Dru said, going after may be functionally better, because once you're turned away with something you were planning on getting rid of, you're going to look to get rid of it right with the electronics. Does that make sense to shoot for the 12th, for that then, or do you want to do it after? Jennifer said, she (Clean Earth) wants two days. Do you want to do September 12 in October? September 28 October. Okay? Laura said, the upside is, if you do it on the same day, it's just one date for people, it's like, we're not manning the landfill. Kathy said, but the landfill's only open till 1:00 p.m. Laura said, yes, it's like 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. or something. Kathy said, she was thinking that too, like throw everything in your car and just get rid of it, when are the hours 9:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. that we usually do the collection? Laura said, like 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Kathy said, just something to think about, because she was thinking the same thing, but she remembers somebody saying that the landfill is only open until 1:00 p.m. on Saturday. Dru said, so the you the question you're raising is, should this be from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday? Kathy said, no, she was thinking, the 1, 2, you know, you go to landfill and you come, and that's fine, like, for somebody like me, that'd be great, but some people have to be here by the noon. Dru asked Carol what she needed to move forward? Carol said two dates, what were the two dates again? Dru said, the 28th of September and October 12th. Carol asked if someone would be taking care of the details (setting up volunteers)? She said we had seven volunteers (Chad, Sandy, Dave, Ann, Tom, Mark and myself) helping to direct traffic. She said, the Clean Earth company supplies everything as far as people in the building taking electronics out of cars, collecting money and shrink wrapping/boxing items, so we would really only need people manning the roadway, in and out, showing people where to go. Dru said, so we need to volunteer, does anyone want to take the lead on organizing this? Kathy said, she thought it was too soon to organize and wanted to wait until closer to the event. Dru said, he was thinking the same thing. Carol said, that there was a fee for of \$5,500 that the township would be liable for and the County does have a grant of up to \$2,000 that we could apply for and be reimbursed. She said, so it's a lot of money and time involved, you have to have some kind of skeleton crew or plan in place. Cheyenne asked if this was the only company that we can contract with? Carol said that it wasn't however, we contracted with them last year, and she said they were very well organized. They bring a lot of staff that we don't have to provide, we only provide people to direct traffic. Chad said he can help out again to direct traffic and will bring his own coffee. Dru asked Chad if they can put him on the lead to the project so they can have a name? Chad said sure, he can do the 28th but not the 12th. Dru said we have a couple of people (Kathy, Cheyenne, Chad, Winfield, Dru) expressing an interest and he can participate too.

H. LITTLE LITTER PROGRAM/LITTLE ART PROGRAM - Dru said he didn't know what the little litter program/little art program was? Jennifer said she sent a link to everyone on the little litter program/little art program. She said that she talked about the program as part of their goals. She stated that this was a nonprofit, it doesn't seem like it's locked in too much as far as doing it. She asked if everyone saw the link in their email that she sent and looked at the information? She said that it was interesting, it was just a way of coordinating with schools to put trash into a mesh container and you could spell a word like litter, and then it's just packed with litter. She said, it could be art within one of our parks, we could get the Elementary, High School and Middle Schools, involved. She said that there is more we can find out about it and was trying to get the juices going and a thought pattern, you would have to have the letters built, you know, it's like chicken wire and all that. She thinks there are people that could help weld the piece together, people could dump whatever, it's just an idea, and it can be brought up at the next meeting so people have time to think about it. She said in the meantime, people can look into it and they can discuss it again. Dru said maybe he was wrong, he thought it was Chad and Russ interested in the art to trash, so let's consider it and put it on next month, we might do have a couple

of things here to make sure we get to on our agenda, but that's good, we have something to focus on going forward. Laura said that she looked at it too and asked what they did with it when they're done? Jennifer said that she wanted to do more research. She said she could reach out to her as she does a real interesting TED talk. She said she believes she sent all the links. Dru asked if it was made out of chicken wire? Jennifer said they did letters, like when she first did it, and it just grew, but they're all over the like, a phrase like CARE. Cheyenne said, it's actually built like a cage, it's not a rebar, but it's metal. Russ said he could weld. Dru asked Jennifer if she wanted to take the lead on that for next month and provide more information. Jennifer said, she knew there were other people interested and she didn't want to get ahead of herself. Chad asked if they needed to request with them to do this? Jennifer said she didn't know, she said that she's a nonprofit and the site is very limited, she didn't get the impression that it was a big deal. Chad said that there are other locations in Pennsylvania, York, Lancaster. Jennifer said okay, so then we could reach out to them and ask them how they coordinated it, if you want, if it came through an EAC or some municipality type. Carol asked if Jennifer was going to resend information? Jennifer said yes, she'll resend it. Dru said that they can discuss it next at the next meeting.

I. STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATE ON COOKS CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION 50TH ANNIVERSARY SIGN-UP SHEET - Dru said Jennifer, you were the point on this, right?

Jennifer said yes, she was. She said that the date is July 13th for the Cooks Creek 50th anniversary and that Scott Douglas (that was just here) is the president, he's been coordinating it and he's asked all the watersheds, along with several of the EAC's from us to Springfield to join in. She said they've agreed to do it and there's no real setup other than some volunteers. She said that the event runs from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and she's hoping that the EAC will volunteer for a shift. Her other ask is, what do they want to display? She said that she will have a table and was hoping to make a kid friendly type display to help kids understand how watersheds work and show the different things where they (kids) can put their heads into bugs, and their parents could take the pictures and stuff. She knows that they have rain barrels next door and that they have open space information that would be great to help communicate, because they're really hoping that they will have up to 500 people stopping by. She said that this will be kid friendly. Jennifer said that she can do a doodle, and then they can pull together an open space brochure? She said she thought that they'd have plenty of stuff for the EAC and start developing that communication. She thought the open space would be great. Jennifer asked Carol if she knew if there was stuff from the past, from outreaches? She said she has a clean compost bin from last year's class that she can bring. Kathy said she could help her and mentioned that Chad was talking about bringing some of the ideas that they saw on the virtual network because there was a lot of really interesting things in the virtual conference, and you can bring some of that information to here, and those people were willing to help and send you whatever you wanted. Dru said, we should revisit this conversation a little bit later, because it's in our update to reports, ok? Jennifer and Kathy said good.

J. DISCUSS TIRE RECYCLING PROGRAM - Dru asked Kathy to talk about the Tire Recycling.

Kathy said she collected information and has someone that is willing to come. She said that she spoke to Cathy Gorman, and Cathy said that was a great idea. She said that Alaina will come with her truck and help load the tires. She has the tire prices. She said that she asked the Hellertown Borough to join and Hellertown said thank you very much for asking and they will present it at their council on Monday, May 20th. She said that she did not pick a date because she had to discuss with the EAC. She said that the EAC will have to decide if they're interested, then it will go to Lower Saucon Council. She said that they were brainstorming about, how they can make this successful to have people bring their tires in. She said that one idea they (her and the Borough) had was to say, the first 50 tires would be free, or the first 100 tires would be free, and each municipality would have to give \$150.00 towards people bringing in their tires. She said that was one of the reasons why they had to go to council, because she's asking for \$150.00 from our Council and \$150.00 from Hellertown Borough. She said this was just a suggestion, they (EAC) just have to say yes, no, good, bad, along with picking a date, and she has no idea what date. Dru asked if Alaina would show up with the with the truck? Kathy said yes. Jennifer asked how much one tire will cost? Kathy said \$3.00 - \$5.00 (depending on the size). She said that she didn't print it off the information for the meeting, but nothing was outrageously expensive. Kathy said that she gave the information to Cathy but she can certainly do it again. She said that a regular tire for an automobile was five bucks. Carol asked for the name of the company and Kathy said that she was

independent, her name was Alaina tire recycling. Laura asked if there was a limit on how many tires she can fit in her truck? Kathy said she has a pretty big truck, but they have a problem, she was willing to help take them herself. Jennifer asked, what was done with the tires once collected? She said that's just as important as collecting them. Kathy said she didn't ask, she was just trying to find someone to would actually come and pick up the tires, she'll find out. She said that one company wanted you to bring the tires, drop the tires off, and they'll come on Monday and pick them up and the township wasn't too thrilled about that idea. She said that this company (Alaina tire recycling) is willing to come with her truck and help and they usually come from about 9:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., she is willing to take the tires, and had prices, so she didn't get too far into the weeds, she was gathering information. Dru said that issue is, is Hellertown Council was considering this, this week? Kathy said, yes, Monday, May 20th. Dru said, time is of the essence for us to try to get this in front of our council or could we wait another month and find out what day...Kathy said, it's two weeks well, for council, it's because her original plan was to put it on the agenda for tomorrow, and she found out you can't do that, so it'll be two weeks till our council meets again, right? Dru said yes, does someone want to make a motion that we request \$150 and then? Jennifer said before we do that, when do we think we're doing this, because we've already got dates, so she wanted to make sure. Kathy said that she wanted this to be successful, Cathy Gorman suggested that she does it the same day as the electronics, it's hard to juggle all this stuff. Chad said it can get pretty busy back there, if you have too many people. Cheyenne said she feels like that's not a great idea. Chad said, it might be a little too busy. Cheyenne said, she feels like maybe that would be something worthwhile if they would come with a box truck and maybe park over by the compost area is, you know what I mean? Kathy said, all that stuff's up for negotiation, she was originally trying to do a June 1st date because she thought, oh, you can drop off your tires and then you can go the dump, you know, but she's not going to make June 1st, so that's not going to happen. She said the date is really up to everybody else, and they can table that too, she's okay with that, this was just information. Dru said, it would be good too to find out what they do with the tires and see whether they go into playgrounds or whether they go to China. Kathy said that she can find out. Chad said, downstream, what they're being used for. Dru said, why don't we do that? And then we'll talk about this again in June. Okay, thank you for digging into this.

- K. **GOALS AND PROJECTS FOR 2024 CHART** – Dru said that he did not make a Google Doc., he said he threw a spreadsheet together and copied it to everyone. He said, take a look at it and if you want to lead something, add something or if you want to move something you can. The upper list is based on what his notes said the conversation was, he didn't want to slight anybody. He said, if your pet project was in the lower bin, we can have second or third tier. He wanted to ask everyone to make whatever adjustment they wanted and send him a copy. He said that he'll pull it all and compile it. Chad asked when he sent it? Dru said that it was after 5:00 p.m.

III. **DEVELOPER ITEMS**

- A. **INFORMATIONAL UPDATE - 2024-04-19 HEA LETTER - SHEETZ STORE 3691 PA RT. 378 - PRELIMINARY-FINAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN** - Dru said, as far as he could tell, Hanover's comments addressed the things they discussed in so far as they are requesting a more comprehensive carbonate review, rather than what they included in their carbonate review, so he didn't know if we wanted to add anything to it, or just wait because they're going to have to come forward with more information at Hanover's request. He said, he's counting on the fact that they know they requested more information for the carbonates and will cover some of the issues that he raised. Laura said that's the reason, she actually asked Cathy to give this to them (EAC) as they looked at the sheets plan at the last meeting, they didn't have this letter and she knew there was a long list of comments and suggestions and didn't know what Hanover was doing. She said, she wanted to make sure he could see this and know that they covered all that stuff. Dru said, the bottom line is, it will depend on what they submit and how they will respond to this, that's what's a little bit frustrating. Laura said we don't know that yet. Dru said we just have to go forward and see what they come back with. He said does anybody have any other thoughts on that? No one responded.

IV. **PUBLIC COMMENT** -

Dru asked Tim Steely from Red Barn if he was there for any particular comment? Tim said that he just to see what was going to come up on the junkyard issue. Dru said if you want to bear with us, we're almost there, or if you're in a hurry, we can rush it up the item, let's run it up to you, let's do it right now. (See item D. below).

V. **UPDATES/REPORTS**

A. **EAC NETWORK VIRTUAL CONFERENCE NOTES** - Dru said several people, attended the EAC Network Virtual Conference, if anyone would like to bring anything in particular to our attention that may be helpful for us to consider, feel free, if you participated in that and you're thinking back or reviewing your notes or just pondering your experience, if that inspires you to put something on the goals and objectives spreadsheet, then we can do it that way too.

B. **DESIGNATE ADOPT-A-ROAD DATES FOR SPRING AND FALL** - Dru asked where we were with that? He didn't recall. Laura said the road is still closed, right? Carol said the road can still be accessed, that's what she was told by Roger. Cheyenne said the guys are working right at Valerie Lane. She said that you can go from 412 down to there on the other side, you can also walk through it, you just can't drive a vehicle through. Dru asked if anyone want to take the lead on the Adopt-A-Road? He said that Kaitlin always chaired this, does anyone want to take a lead on trying to establish a date you do? Kathy asked Carol if they can still do spring at this point? Carol said yes. Kathy said, okay, you can do spring through June? She asked if anybody had a preference of what Saturday in June to pick-up from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.? She asked if she picking up by herself? She said June 1st, June 8th, June 15th, June 22nd? Anybody? Does anybody care? Laura said June 1st is Saucon Valley Community yard sale. Kathy said and the dump if you're doing that. Cheyenne said it's quick. Laura said it really is, it only does take an hour. Cheyenne said Jennifer and her husband took one end, she and a girlfriend helped her with the other end, we were done pretty quick. Kathy said we could do it June 1st, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., ok? Carol asked for confirmation on who would pick-up and drop off. Kathy said she would pick up on May 31st at 10 o'clock and drop off on Monday June 3rd at 10:00 a.m. Carol said the pickup and drop off is on the side of the Public Works building. Dru said that they'll worry about the fall date, when we get closer to fall. Chad said so we're doing this the same day as the landfill. Kathy said only from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Chad asked what road do we have? Cheyenne said Reading.

C. **BETHLEHEM LANDFILL SPRING CLEAN UP FOR RESIDENTS ON JUNE 1, 2024 & OCTOBER 5, 2024** - Dru said that the Bethlehem landfill has a spring cleanup for residents June 1st and October 5th held at the Landfill.

D. **JUNKYARD ISSUE DISCUSSION** - Dru said what it came down was, he said he was sorry now that he just realized you're sitting there but basically, it's been made clear to them by the acting township manager that this isn't an EAC issue, it's a zoning issue, and it's been referred to the zoning officer. Dru said that he didn't know if the outgoing zoning officer addressed this, he doubted it, he wouldn't have on his way out the door, so he thinks right now, we're in a holding pattern. Laura said, Cathy has helped, lined up someone for zoning as an interim, so whether they're picking it up or we're waiting till we hire somebody, she's not positive. Kathy said she apologized because she and were talking, she thought Cathy said that the zoning officer was going to tell them tonight what he found, she said he was supposed to. Laura said, between then and now he decided to hand in his resignation. Dru said, we're kind of out of the mix, one thing he did wonder was we're on hold, in fact, but he wondered if it would still be appropriate for them to communicate with the zoning officer and say, okay, there's a zoning issue here, of course, and that's within your realm, on the other hand, we want to register a concern that there are environmental issues likely involved here as well, and that we think you should take that consideration. He said he thinks that would be the appropriate thing to do. He said here's what we could do, here's the here's the simple thing to do, given that we're waiting, we're going to be stuck waiting, he can draft a memo, so to speak, and put it on our agenda for next meeting, they can review it and then vote on whether they want to proceed with submitting that to the zoning officer. He said he didn't imagine they

were going to have a zoning officer by Friday. Laura said they were hoping to get something in place Wednesday. Cheyenne said there's third party now? Laura said it depends, probably because you need somebody, so she didn't know, we have time on this. Kathy said you can't just stop in? Laura said, yes, they're going to have at least a third-party agency in place, and then see from there. Dru said he's wondering if this requires a motion, or if this is something that... Kathy said it probably does. Dru stated that they do have the junkyard issue discussion on our agenda, he said that he believes that they can still make a motion and take action on that. Dru asked if they have a motion that we should draft a brief letter to bring this to the zoning officer's attention? Laura said that she'll make the motion. Kathy said she can't, but she'll second the motion, she thinks she's allowed to do that. Dru said all in favor? Everyone said aye. Dru said that he will draft a memo, if they've made that motion, he thinks he could circulate a memo via email for comments, and if everyone comments on that, then he thinks they could forward it to the zoning officer, interim zoning officer, whatever. Laura said we can send it to Cathy and she figures out who. Dru said he can send it to Cathy and requested to be forwarded to the zoning officer or acting manager. Russell said we have no idea what's in there. Tim said you can't even imagine everything. He said he noticed that eyesore since he moved here five years ago, so he's glad it's being brought up. Dru said that when you look at it, it's rather clear, it's not a spic and span operation. Kathy said that when he was talking about the Cooks Creek Watershed, she said her toes were just like....Carol asked to go back to the motion, the motion was for Dru to draft a letter and send it to Cathy? Dru said and to send to Cathy and requested she forwarded to the zoning officer. Carol asked Dru to send that to her as well? Dru said, yes. Carol said thank you.

VI. OLD/MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS ITEMS

- A. APPROVAL OF MARCH 12, 2024 MINUTES & REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF APRIL 9, 2024 MINUTES** - Dru asked if anyone had any changes for the March minutes? Carol said that there were changes submitted for March and corrections were made, all they needed to do was motion to approve as they never motioned to do so last month. Laura said that she'll make the motion that they approve the March minutes as they were corrected. Dru said he would second that. All in favor.

MOTION BY: Laura

SECOND BY: Dru

ROLL CALL: 5-0 (Tom Carocci & Ann Spirk – Absent)

Dru said the April 9th minutes, there was a lot. He said he found two things. One, let's see, where was that? He said that he wrote it down, he said page 11, line 3. He said he thinks this was a record for pages, 23, fictitious, the first word should be facetious, and page 22, line 19, the word sort of instead of sorely. He said he thought this was accurate. He asked if anybody else come across anything? Okay, so, motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Dru said Jennifer, okay, who seconds? Laura Ray seconds, all in favor. Motion to adjourn. Dru said so move so moved second. I'll second that All in favor.

MOTION BY: Jennifer

SECOND BY: Laura

ROLL CALL: 5-0 (Tom Carocci & Ann Spirk – Absent)

VII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY: Laura moved for adjournment. The time was 8:29 p.m.

SECOND BY: Dru

ROLL CALL: 5-0 (Tom Carocci & Ann Spirk - Absent)

Next EAC Meeting: June 11, 2024 @ 6:30 p.m.