

PARADISE TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

June 21, 2023

Paradise Township Municipal Building

Chairman Mike Stein called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

Present were: Mike Stein, Paul Adamo, Antonio Purificato, Don Miller, and Louise Troutman (guest)

The minutes of the April 19 meeting were unanimously approved. Motion by Mike Stein, second by Paul Adamo.

Open Space acquisition priorities recommendations for Board of Supervisors: The Board of Supervisors discussed the EAC recommendations for acquisition of Open Space properties. The BoS felt that a target of 50% of Paradise Township land that was permanently protected from development was both too high, and that Open Space land need not be permanently protected. The BoS felt that with a target of 30-40% of Open Space, should any of it be changed and developed, then further acquisition could be considered. As the Open Space fund contains a considerable balance, the BoS has invited Christine Meinhart-Fritz to attend a future workshop and discuss appropriate and legal use of Open Space funds with the BoS. A date has not yet been set for this Workshop, but once scheduled will be announced to the EAC and the public.

Hawthorne Resort Conditional Use hearing: A final Hearing date is scheduled on June 22, 2023, for Parties to have testimony regarding earlier witnesses and facts. Following Party testimony, the hearing will be closed, and Parties will be invited to file written briefs. After a 15-day period to review the briefs, a final deliberation session will be held and then the public will be invited to comment. The date of the session for public comment will be announced to the EAC and the public.

BCRA Proposal for water/sewer extension on route 611: A public work session was held on June 5, 2023, to hear a preliminary proposal by BCRA to extend its water and sewer line up 611 to serve the Empire Construction townhomes, proposed Hawthorne resort and Mt. Airy Casino and Resort. Concerns included cost to developers and the use of well water in Paradise Township as a back-up for potable water, which would then be transported by sewer pipe to BCRA wastewater treatment facility, essentially removing water from the sub-watershed.

Paradise Township Trails: Louise Troutman commented that the Paradise Township website did not clearly and accurately represent Township owned trails. Stein noted that there was a summer intern working for the Monroe County Planning Commission who had time and skills to work on revising the Township website pages on the Township's trail. Troutman and Miller asked to talk with her if she was contracted for this work to express ideas for the revised web pages.

Open Space Acquisition: Miller asked for further discussion of potential Open Space land acquisition, potential including the Ashover Hotel property in order to protect it from development. This item will be placed on a future EAC agenda.

Motion to Adjourn made by Stein, second by Adamo. Motion passed unanimously and meeting adjourned at 5:55 pm.