

PARADISE TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Meeting via GOTOMEETING
MARCH 17, 2021

Call to Order

Chair Gary Konrath called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

Members Present

Konrath, Cheryl Phillips, Don Miller, Laura VanGilder, Edith Stevens

Guest - Joel Shilling

Minutes of the January 20 were approved, motion by VanGilder, second by Phillips. Don Miller abstained as he was not at the meeting.

Mountain bikes on Township open space:

Following the EAC meeting on January 20, VanGilder researched county and state parks where multi-use trails exist and provided a summary to Konrath. Konrath reported that the BOS discussed the EAC suggestion that the Township look into allowing mountain bike usage in Paradise-Price Preserve. Uses allowed on PPP are limited by covenants on the deed, and other properties are limited by DCNR grant that assisted with funding. Also, any changes at PPP would have to be approved by Price Township. VanGilder and Miller agreed to contact Christine Detorre, DCNR regional rep, (and former Director of Monroe County Planning Commission) to discuss how grants from DCNR affect uses on properties DCNR partially funded.

Open space properties in Paradise Township:

EAC members discussed the restricted funding that the Township holds from the voter approved open space tax. The fund grows every year. Numerous properties around the Township are for sale or are potentially available and some have possible linkages to current Township owned open space or otherwise protected lands. Gary will investigate some of the properties and report back to EAC. Miller pointed out that tho' the real estate market in the Poconos is currently "hot", that is more for existing homes and not necessarily for undeveloped land.

Color coding on Township trails:

Gary will personally mark directions to exits (parking lots) on Township properties, but he does not think trails need to be color coded, as they are all loops. Miller brought up meeting hikers on Van Buskirk Preserve who have entered from PFLA land and asked how those hikers are informed about the trails. Entries from adjoining properties are not marked in anyway. Gary believes the property line is identified but maybe not near the trail from PFLA.