

PARADISE TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Meeting via GOTOMEETING
April 21, 2021

Call to Order

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

Members Present

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

Guest - Joel Shilling

Minutes of the March 17 were approved – motion by Cheryl Phillips, second by Gary Konrath.

Barberry re-growth at Swiftwater-Forest Preserve - BOS has approved spraying re-growth of barberry cut last year with an approved herbicide by a licensed operator. Gary will contact Destination Landscaping and Absolutely Lawns for prices. Don Miller brought up an alternative control method used by PHLT which may be looked into in the future.

Possible Open Space properties for Township purpose – Gary has looked into all those discussed at March meeting and believes none are viable purchases. Proposed development on the Hawthorne Inn property is at the Planning Commission, so any approach re purchase by Township would be considered a conflict of interest.

Mt Airy Greenway reports - The BOS has scheduled a work session on the Mt. Airy 2019 Report, which has not yet been accepted by the Township. Tentative date is May 3, Gary will confirm and let EAC members know. The 2020 Report has been received, but no meeting scheduled at this time. The Report goes directly to Jason Smith at Hanover Engineering for review and comment.

Conductivity – Edie Stevens had shared with EAC members a graph of conductivity measurements on headwater streams flowing into the Township. Conductivity is primarily a measure of salt concentrations from road and parking lot run-off. Yankee Run has highest conductivity of all headwater streams with Forest Hills Run a close second. Discussion held on township road treatment (mixture of sand and salt), and that of PennDot and surrounding townships. More info is needed, and Stevens pointed out the BWA is at the awareness raising stage of its investigation.

Other business- Miller brought up **noise concerns re trucks using air brakes** through Paradise Valley. Konrath said the BOS had received similar complaints and have been told, three times, by PennDot personnel at the Stroudsburg facility, that the Township cannot regulate noise on a state highway. He will not take up this concern again.

Hillestad brought **up burning concerns** reported to her. It was agreed such concerns should be reported to the Township Zoning Officer.

Van Gilder reported on a conversation with Christine Detorre, DCNR, about **bicycle use on Township** open space property purchased with DCNR grants. Detorre said that the properly regulated use would not be in violation of DCNR grant requirements. Konrath reported that language in the Paradise-Price Preserve deed/grant agreement allows bicycle use. Clarification of definitions of “active” and “passive” activity is needed, where those definitions appear and what they apply to. Konrath will look into that further. Re concern about attracting large groups, Miller reported that the Game Commission has requirements about use of Gamelands for organized events or large groups which could be incorporated into Paradise recreation requirements.