

PARADISE TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
January 19, 2022
Paradise Township Municipal Building

Call to Order - Chair Mike Stein called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

Members Present - Stein, Edith Stevens, Cheryl Phillips, Joel Schilling

Reorganization

Mike Stein was appointed chair by the BOS. Carol Hillestad was elected vice-chair and Edit Stevens, secretary by unanimous vote of EAC members.

The meeting schedule for 2022 was approved by unanimous vote – third Wed of month at Paradise Municipal Building.

Minutes of the October 20, 2021 meeting were approved. Cheryl Phillips motion, Joel Schilling second, Mike Stein abstained.

Old Business

Stein showed a picture of Mile-a-Minute vine at Van Buskirk Preserve after spray treatment. The invasive species was all eliminated; however it is expected to return in 2022 and close monitoring for early treatment will probably be required.

EAC Recommendation- the road crew and summer trail crew be trained in Mile-a-Minute identification and control. Locations will be reported to BOS, which can take eradication steps as needed. Stevens will distribute BWA Invasive Plant article written by Carol Hillestad to EAC for sharing with BOS and Township staff. (Link to article” https://brodheadwatershed.org/wp-content/uploads/MileAMinute_BWA-InvasiveofMonth.pdf)

New Business

Schilling asked if Go To Meeting could be renewed to permit hybrid meeting format

Request for a battery recycling bin to be placed at Township Building to permit residents to drop off used alkaline batteries for recycling

Discussion of EAC Priorities

Mt. Airy – Stein will keep EAC members informed on work sessions or meetings between BOS and Mt Airy, and availability of 2021 Greenway Monitoring Report.

Handicap accessible trail - Gary Konrath (by email to Stein) recommended the Knauf Preserve be considered for a handicap accessible trail. EAC concurs and recommends the BOS ask Hanover Engineering for a design proposal and a cost estimate for construction of a handicap accessible trail at Knauf Preserve.

Trail connections and signage – Joel Schilling will walk both Mt. Airy trails and Township trails and bring recommendations to next EAC meeting for consistency of signage and trail mapping. Stein pointed out the Township can use Open Space funds (25% a year) and does not need to apply for a grant.

Land conservation – EAC recommends Louise Troutman, PHLT, be invited to next meeting to discuss land preservation priorities, particularly in the Butz Run watershed.

EV Charging Stations – Joel Schilling discussed concerns with Township Zoning Ordinance and Schedule of Uses, regarding EV charging stations. The EAC recommends a definition of Commercial EV Charging Station be added and that this be a permitted use in the B1 and B2 districts and as part of a resort in the Resort Overlay District, and a conditional use elsewhere.

Other business

Non-Structural Stormwater Management -

The subject of flooding on Rt 191 north and west of Crescent Lodge was revisited – the source of the flooding is generally considered to be inadequate stormwater management at Wyndham Hills, a development built before management of stormwater runoff was required.

EAC recommends the BOS look into buying property on Rt 191 and building a wetland/pond/retention basin/playing field to accommodate flood flows.

Also, that Hanover Engineering be retained to look at the possibility of retro-fitting stormwater basins in Wyndham Hills to control more of the run-off from the roads and houses in the development. (See October 2021 minutes).

Stein will get a copy of the Hanover Engineering report done several years ago to see if any non-structural, or retro-fitting approaches were considered.

Sylvan Cascade Road - non-structural approaches to controlling stormwater runoff were discussed. The EAC recommends that property owners along the road be approached to discuss possibility of controlling run-off from driveways along the road before it gets to the township road, such as “water bars” to divert runoff off the driveways.

Action Items:

Stein – Will proposed to BOS that Hanover Engineering inspect Knauf Preserve for providing handicap access and use of the hiking trail.

Schilling – Walk Mt. Airy and Township hiking trails to determine if signage is consistent and if not, propose strategy to align signage on hiking trails.

Stein – Obtain most recent Hanover Engineering report regarding stormwater flooding in Wyndham Hills and along route 191 to determine if non-structural approaches are considered.