

**Paradise Township
Environmental Advisory Council
Minutes, March 20, 2024**

Members Present: M. Stein, A. Purificato (by Zoom), D. Miller and E. Stevens.

Meeting called to order by Stein at 5 pm

Stein noted a quorum was present.

Approval of minutes of January 17, 2024: Stevens noted that the year of the Greenway Report referenced in the meeting minutes should be 2022. With that correction she moved for approval. 2nd - Purificato, approved unanimously.

Old Business

Informational letter to new residents. With correction to name of the EAC, the letter was approved for submission to the Board of Supervisors. EAC recommends it be distributed to new residents and published in the Township newsletter once a year.

Hawthorne resort – Stein provided an update. PennFuture appealed the Township Conditional Use approval of the proposed Hawthorne Resort and Shopping Center. The appeal was heard in early January before Judge Zulick. His decision was issued on Friday, March 15. The appeal by PennFuture was denied and the CU Permit was upheld.

The Applicant came to the BOS meeting on March 18 and asked to submit a request for rezoning on the property. The Applicant was informed they must comply with paragraph 65 of the Conditional Use Permit which states the Applicant must provide notice to all parties to the hearing within 30 days of the public meeting at which the request made. The Applicant must also provide public notice by advertisement of the date and place of the public hearing.

Mt. Airy Greenway Work Session scheduled for March 4 was canceled as Mt. Airy did not respond to letters requesting their attendance on March 4. Township Solicitor Prevoznik will send a follow-up letter requesting their attendance at a meeting to discuss the Greenway report. Stein will notify EAC members when a future meeting is scheduled.

BCRA expansion of water/sewer. At the February 21 meeting of the BoS, the board agreed: “Briglia moved and Stein seconded to approve Gonze signing a letter to the BCRA requesting that Paradise Township properties be included in its docket as future service water and wastewater service areas all properties listed in option B.”

Stevens noted that the BCRA has requested a Service Area Expansion from the DBRC for a sewer line extension only. She further noted that this could potentially drain watershed resources out of the Township. Stevens expressed concern the letter could be construed as Township approval of the BCRA

application before the DRBC to expand their service area into Paradise Township and that the letter from the BoS provided Township approval of this land use extension.

Stein believes the intent of the letter was only to give BCRA approval to negotiate with Township residents to provide an extension of their water and sewer service into parts of Paradise Township. Stein noted that it was his understanding that any actual extension of sewer and water lines into Paradise Township was not deemed approved and would require subsequent approval from Paradise Township.

Stein to ask T. Transue if copies of the letter to BCRA can be provided to Stevens and EAC members. Stein also to ask the Board of Supervisors if Solicitor Prevoznik can communicate directly with Stevens regarding the purpose of this letter and its legal obligations and implications.

Paradise Township Trail maps – the Township has a contract with New Mind Design for design of new brochures with trail maps for Township preserves. Carol Hillestad is writing the text for the brochures.