

PARADISE TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
March 16, 2022
Paradise Township Municipal Building

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

Members Present - Stein, Joel Schilling, Edith Stevens, Cheryl Phillips, Don Miller.

The minutes of the January meeting were approved as presented. Motion by Don Miller, second by Cheryl Phillips.

Hybrid meetings - Stein pointed out that the Township now has a webcam that provides for anyone to attend any public Township meeting remotely. The Township will be setting up a Zoom account and a Zoom link will be published on the township website for future meetings.

Stein also clarified that Second Class Township meetings can be hybrid, and board members can attend and vote remotely.

Knauf Preserve handicap access – Hanover Engineering has been engaged to inspect the Knauf property and, if suitable will prepare a proposal for design of a handicap trail.

Discussion on possible linkage from Knauf trails to Mt. Airy's Merry Hill trails – Schilling will look to see if there is a suitable area. He will report back to EAC next month. Cooperation with Mt Airy will be necessary.

Mile-A-Minute weed training for road crew – Stein will discuss possible dates and content with Carol Hillestad and road crew.

Non-structural solutions to stormwater runoff from Wyndham Hills development – Stein provided a copy of engineer's report on possible structural solutions. Stevens will review and report back at next meeting. EAC discussed the deed restrictions in place on Wyndham Hills properties which include a requirement to keep drainage swales open, not to interfere with original drainage plan, excavating without grantor permission and limits clearing of trees.

Stein will check with township attorney Prevoznik to see if township has any recourse where deed restrictions are not being enforced, possibly contributing to drainage problems.

Hiking trail signage – Schilling has walked both Knauf and Merry Hill trails and made maps of existing signage. He will prepare a list of where improved or additional signage is needed.

New Business- Alternatives to winter road salt - Stein attended a training session for new township supervisors run by PSATS. This program included a presentation on public works, including winter road maintenance. He attempted to get information on alternatives to road salt and was informed that

PennDOT will provide brine to municipalities at no charge. Although brine is still sodium chloride, it involves less salt use and tends to stay on the road better than rock salt. He discussed this possibility with the Paradise Roadmaster who noted that this was tried here in the past but did not have a satisfactory result. Stein to continue exploring possibilities for mitigating road salt impact. Additionally, the source of the brine must be determined to be sure it is not fracking fluids, which can contain harmful chemicals.

Stevens shared some information put out by True Value Hardware on the harm salt does to plants and offering alternatives. Alternatives listed include calcium chloride, magnesium chloride, calcium magnesium acetate, sand, and liquid deicers.

Controlling use of Jake Brakes on Rt 940 through the township – This subject has been discussed on the past, but it was reported that PennDot was uncooperative. Stein will bring the topic to BOS for further discussion.