PARADISE TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES September 21, 2022, 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, Carol Hillestad and Don Miller

Guest – Louise Troutman, Pocono Heritage Land Trust

The minutes of the August meeting were approved. Hillestad abstained as she was not present.

Solar on Municipal Maintenance buildings – no further information. Info on incentives for municipalities in the Inflation Reduction Act is not yet available.

Mt Airy Timber Harvest on Conservation Greenway lands - timbering has stopped, a Notice of Violation has been sent to Mt. Airy. The NOV requested a restoration/remediation plan for the timbered lands be provided to the Township, and a Forest Management Plan for any future logging is required. The NOV offered a meeting with Township officials if Mt. Airy wishes. Stein will notify EAC if such a meeting is scheduled.

Utility Scale Solar Ordinance – the Township is considering developing an ordinance to regulate utility scale solar projects. A public work session will be scheduled. Stein will notify EAC members of date. Currently utility scale solar projects are a conditional use in all zoning districts.

Potential open space properties – Louise Troutman, Executive Director of Pocono Heritage Land Trust, presented information on several large properties in the Township that are presently for sale. EAC discussed the properties and think they are valuable properties for public access and resource protection. Troutman will provide additional information to the BOS.

Township parks and preserves brochure, website info on parks and preserves and trail maps – these were discussed and EAC believes they should be updated and made more user friendly. Some township properties are not included in the brochure and trails are not clearly defined. The Mt Airy trail brochures were reviewed and are a good example of user friendly information.