

**Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes  
August 20, 2024**

**Attendees:** Bill Silverstein, Christopher Mano, Dave Grady, Dan Dehner

**Guest Attendees:** Michael Krauss (Wants to remain ad-hoc,) Karen Shinkle (Wants to be an official member,) Shaina Barnes

**Regrets:** Krikor Panossian, Cory Salmon, Jane Miluski,

**Identified Next Steps**

<b>Date Identified</b>	<b>Responsible Person</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Due Date</b>	<b>Date Completed</b>
2024-08-20	EAC	Lighting Ordinance: Waiting on response from Township Solicitor	By next EAC Meeting	
2024-08-20	Shaina	Recycling Stickers: work with the design to see how big the stickers will be	By next EAC Meeting	
2024-08-20	Dave and Dan	Rain garden restoration: track down whether there is funding from Carly Ware from CRC Water Shed	By next EAC Meeting	
2024-08-20	Dan	Gas Powered Gardening Equipment: report HOA findings from August test run	By next EAC Meeting	
2024-08-20	Christopher	Energy audits: compare what PECO does, as well as continuev research into the <<<>>> company	By next EAC Meeting	
2024-08-20	Dan	Runoff/toxics: ask Dave if the township does any spraying?	By next EAC Meeting	
2024-08-20	Christopher	Runoff/toxics: check w/ Krikor	By next EAC Meeting	

**Agenda**

1. Approval of 7/16/2024 Minutes
  - a. Posted on the Website approx. 7/29
  - b. Approved
2. Review identified next steps and progress
3. Meeting Schedule - moved to 3rd Tuesday at 6:30 PM

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4. Planning Commission referrals
  - a. None this month
  
5. Community Choice Aggregation - request from CCA for PA Working Group for municipality support (by 7/29 if NP is interested in supporting)
  - a. Discussion:
    - i. Submitted the on-line support 7/29 and brief follow up questions
  
6. Old business
  - a. Lighting ordinance
    - i. Discussion:
      1. Currently with the Legal Commissioner (Bob)
    - ii. Next Steps:
      1. Waiting on comments from Legal Commissioner Bob
  
7. Recycling contract / stickers
  - a. Discussion:
    - i. Jessica (Accts Payable) will be working with the set up a meeting to cover all that, plus the 904 grant (Tonnage) 902 (Equipment) - county has hired a new recycling person.
    - ii. If we decide on stickers, is there a size restriction?
    - iii. Dave, if it is a couple thousand, then that will work. If it is more than that ???
    - iv. Also, how would they be placed?
      1. Home owner?
      2. Trash collector?
      3. Someone else?
    - v. Contents of sticker
      1. Red - what not to put in
      2. Green - what to put in
      3. "When in doubt, throw it out"
    - vi. Recommended Other means for communications:
      1. Refrigerator Magnets
      2. Website
  - b. Next Steps:
    - i. Shaina to work with the design to see how big the stickers will be
  
8. Rain garden restoration
  - a. Discussion:
    - i. Post meeting comments from Dave Grady:
      1. Carly at CRC said there could be opportunities for rain garden funding as well as assistance with designing the rain gardens
      2. I think once the water quality basin is finished being installed in Sapovits, the township can begin looking at an ideal new location, size, and design for the rain garden.
    - ii. Contacted Parks commission

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- iii. Both Rain Gardens need significant work
- iv. Contact suggestions:
  - 1. Boy Scouts

9. Next Steps:

- a. Dave is tracking down whether there is funding from Carly Ware from CRC Water Shed

10. Other new business

a. Gas Powered Gardening Equipment

i. Discussion:

- 1. Any update on Dan HOA or Swarthmore status
- 2. Dan to report how HOA decides on request to ban
  - a. Currently running a test for the month of August
- 3. Alternate suggestions
  - a. Suggest to identify times that they can do it
  - b. Add muffler of some sort to existing equipment to reduce the decibel level

ii. Next Steps:

- 1. Dan to report HOA findings from August test run

11. Energy audits

a. Discussion:

i. PECO offers energy audits for \$50.00

- 1. What is included in the audit?
  - a. Electrical usage
  - b. Professional energy advisor
  - c. Reviewing .... (Look up on the website)
- 2. Could possibly have PECO come in and do it and we determine whether the audits are worth sharing with Nether Providence community
- 3. Ask PECO to do a couple energy audits for free so the EAC can decide

ii. Christopher: Identified a company that does free energy audits

- 1. Can lower utility bills ~\$500/yr
- 2. Bill: Want to be careful to avoid advertising for a specific company, rather we can identify which companies perform the service in this area
- 3. Bill would like several people to try it and see whether it is something to recommend to the township

b. Next Steps:

- i. Christopher to compare what PECO does, as well as continue research into the <<<>>> company

12. Runoff/toxics

a. Discussion:

i. do we want to act on fertilizer, township spraying, private spraying, education

- 1. Post meeting comment from Dave Grady:

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- a. we do some limited spraying in certain areas, such as along the sidewalks on E. Possum Hollow Road, some bridges, and along narrow roads
  - 2. Bill: sediment loading in streams
  - 3. Christopher: Do we regularly use fertilizer - do we dispose of it in the proper way
    - a. Do we regulate the use of it?
  - 4. Bill: Pesticide use is regulated, however there are other things we can look at on what we can and cannot do.
    - a. It might be public education
    - b. What is truly organic and what is not?
    - c. Birdtown designation -
      - i. Not excessively spraying for mosquitos
      - ii. Krikor is the representative
      - iii. There has to be a committee of more than 1 person
        - 1. Previously was Ralf Graves from Parks commission
        - 2. Krikor is the member from the EAC
        - 3. What are the Birdtown recommendations?
  - b. Next Steps:
    - i. Dan: Need to ask Dave if the township does any spraying?
      - 1. Does the county do any spraying
    - ii. Christopher: check w/ Krikor
13. Grants for electric vehicle charging station
- a. Discussion:
    - i. No Discussion
14. Artificial Turn Concern
- a. Discussion:
    - i. What are the aftereffects of the turf?
    - ii. Parking at one of the parks and utilizing it for a Pickle Ball
15. Off-topic - something about a budget review
- a. Green advisor program - NP is not participating this year
16. Next Meeting:
- a. Next meeting: 6:30 on the Third Tuesday, September 17th