

Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
January 28, 2025

Member Attendees: Dan Dehner, Bill Silverstein

Ad-hoc Member Attendees: Michael Krauss, Karen Shinkle

Guests: Maureen Feyas

Regrets: Shaina Barnes, Christopher Mano, Krikor Panossian

Next Steps / Identified Action Items:

Date Identified	Responsible Person	Description	Due Date	Date Completed
2025-01-28	Dan	Lighting Ordinance: Request current disposition from the Solicitor - Robert Scott	By Next EAC mtng	
2025-01-28	Dan	Rain Garden: Dan to initially spearhead the Rain Garden effort.	Ongoing	
2025-01-28	Karen	Rain Garden: Reach out to Williamson College of the Trades - do they have a program which supports the NPT Rain Garden?	By Next EAC mtng	
2025-01-28	Michael	Rain Garden: Reach out to the Schools to see if they have a gardening program	By Next EAC mtng	
2025-01-28	Dan	Reach out to Cory, Jane, Alex, and Jackie to see whether they want to remain Full Members of EAC	By Next EAC mtng	
2025-01-28	Dan	Reach out to "acoschi1@swarthmore.edu." Find out what this is?	By Next EAC mtng	
2025-01-28	Karen	Send a "Letter-of-Intent" to Maureen Feyas (mfeyas@netherprovidence.org) to become a "Full-Member" of the NPT EAC	By Thursday, January 30th	
2025-01-28	Dan	Recycling: How do our surrounding townships educate their residents on the DO's and Don't's of Recycling?	By Next EAC mtng	

Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
January 28, 2025

Date Identified	Responsible Person	Description	Due Date	Date Completed
2025-01-28	Christopher	Food Recovery Initiative: Come prepared to answer the following question: Where is this going? What is the current need above what is already being done?	By Next EAC mtng	
2025-01-28	Christopher	Information on the energy savings: Come prepared to share your vision of the communication to be included in the Newsletter	By Next EAC mtng	
2025-01-28	Christopher	Public education campaign on pesticides or the MS4 program: Come prepared to share your vision of the communication to be included in the Newsletter	By Next EAC mtng	

Agenda:

1. Review 2024 accomplishments

- a. What worked well?
 - i. Identified a Lighting Ordinance
 - 1. Next Steps: Discuss with the Solicitor - Robert Scott
 - ii. Identified issues with the Rain Garden
 - 1. Discussed Garden Clubs and gardeners in the township
 - 2. Master Gardeners at Penn State
 - 3. AI initially to Dan to spearhead the Rain Garden effort
 - 4. AI to Karen - find out about Williamson's School if they have a program
 - 5. AI - Mike to reach out to the Schools to see if they have a gardening program
 - 1. Possibly a program from Strathaven
- b. What needed improvement?
 - i. Rain Garden - Need a commitment to maintain it

2. Review 2025 goals

- a. Website updates (See Below)
 - i. <https://netherprovidence.org/township-boards-committees/environmental-advisory-committee/>
 - ii. Identify areas which need to be updated
 - 1. (**Did Not Discuss**) 3rd paragraph, section "D,"

**Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
January 28, 2025**

- 1. Keeping an index of all open areas, publicly or privately owned, including but not limited to flood-prone areas, swamps and other unique natural areas.
- 2. Environmental Advisory Members
 - 1. Needs updating (See "Review Members of EAC" below)
- b. Rain Garden(s)
 - i. No longer seen on the Website
 - 1. Unsure how to maintain the Rain Garden
 - 2. Can someone one the committee lead a volunteer group to maintain?
 - ii. CAT Club = Citizens Against Trash

3. Review Members of EAC

- a. Member Contact updates

Name	Position	Term Expires
Dan Dehner	Chair	31-DEC-2027
Chris Mano	Vice-Chair	31-DEC-2027
Bill Silverstein	Full Member	31-DEC-2028
Krikor Panossian	Full Member	31-DEC-2028
Karen Shinkle	Ad-Hoc Member	N/a
Michael Krauss	Ad-Hoc Member	N/a

- b. (Did Not Discuss) Vice Chair
 - i. Chris Mano has stepped up and requested this role
 - 1. What needs to occur to make this official

4. Review meeting dates going forward

- a. According to the website, all EAC meetings will be on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM, face to face at the Nether Providence Township Building, with the exceptions of November and December, when the meetings will be held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, same time and place.
 - i. **Decision:** We will meet as stated on the Website
- b. The website was not changed to accommodate new meeting date and times for 2025
 - i. It would be a financial cost to change as all calendars for 2025 have been printed
 - ii. To make a change for 2026, need to identify that by December, 2025
- c. If we want to change the date and time of the meeting, we need a majority vote of EAC members, and then we can look to schedule in 2026

Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
January 28, 2025

- i. QUESTION: By when in 2025 does the Township Manager need to know when these meetings will change in order to be included in the 2026 calendar year?
 - 1. By December, 2025
- d. Discussion
 - i. Suggest Hybrid Meetings
 - ii. Need good equipment to make a Hybrid Work

5. New Business

- a. From Krikor: Stickers for the Township Recycling Bins
 - i. Discussion:
 - i. Shaina received some quotes on Stickers
 - ii. Challenge: Implementing and applying the stickers
 - 1. Where to put the stickers so they would be effective
Invoices for recycling
 - iii. Bill to Maureen - The charges for recycling
 - 1. There was a discussion to charge us based on the commodity prices and our mix, or the facility mix of recyclable
 - 2. Historically, there would be a fixed price per household - the risk is to the recycler
 - 1. If we take the risk, then it is more risk to us
 - 2. If they bill based on what we send them, then we can educate our customers to stop throwing trash in Recycling
 - 3. Bill - the first time we bid out recycling, Mascaro did bid - B&L had the contract - bidding it out separately
 - 1. We said you can bid the Hauling, the Recycling, or both
 - 2. Can put it on the Same RFP to collect and recycling
 - 3. We do not have to skip to the same facility
 - 4. RFPs will be revisited July / August timeframe
 - ii. Next Steps:
 - i. AI to Dan - Take a look at other townships to see what they had done regarding educating the residents on proper Recycling
- b. From Chris:
 - i. Food Recovery Initiative
 - i. Discussion:
 - In accordance with Resolution No. 2021-9 to hereby establish a recommendation for the NPT Zero Waste plan - the EAC hereby proposes a food recovery pilot program to be considered.

Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
January 28, 2025

1. Local businesses, restaurants, and event caterers donate leftover food to local shelters or food banks. Monitor how much food is saved from landfills and redirected to those in need.
 2. Pilot location - Chester, PA or food insecure in our Township
 3. Pilot partners Acme grocery store, 1 restaurant, 1 food bank (Fond & Lifewerks)
 4. In addition to their Tuesday and Thursday collections, we could propose adding a Monday, Wednesday, and Friday schedule of 2-3 times per week to collect donations with Acme.
 5. Recruit small team of 5-10 volunteers (can be members of EAC) to help with collecting, sorting, and distribution
 6. Outreach by announcing the pilot program through flyers, social media, and community meetings
 7. Track metrics such as how many pounds of food or items were diverted from landfills
 8. Conduct an evaluation of the pilot program after 3 months about how much food was diverted from landfills and how many people were served. Share results publicly.
- ii. Next Steps:
 1. Chris to share his vision
- ii. Information on the energy savings to be included in our spring newsletter
 - i. Discussion:
 1. Bill - Still looking for a commitment
 1. Still looking for the vetting
 2. Mike - need to be sure that it is vetted
 3. Bill - We cannot name a "For profit" company,
 - ii. Next Steps:
 1. Need Chris to write the article
- iii. A public education campaign on pesticides or the MS4 program
 - i. Discussion:
 1. Bill - The township is required to minimize pollutants in Storm water
 1. Sometimes it is a picture of a fish and request to not dump oil
 2. Rain Gardens
 3. Limit erosion and suspended solids - e.g. stream bank improvement
 4. This goes back to the township and their program
 5. The other part is reducing pollutants in general - through public education
 - ii. Next Steps:

Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
January 28, 2025

1. Chis will work with Dan on identifying what can be put in the Newsletter

6. Adjourn

7. Next Meeting:

- a. Wednesday, February 26th at 7:00 PM at the Township Building
 - i. Agenda will be posted to the website 1 week ahead of the meeting