

**Towamencin Township
Environmental Advisory Council
Minutes of the May 14, 2024 Meeting**

Present: Rory Kelley (arrived late), Brett MacKay, Joseph (Joe) Meehan, Donna Hegge, Vanessa Gaynor, David McCreary

Joyce Snyder - Board of Supervisors Liaison
David Kraynik – Township Manager
Richard (Rich) Costlow - Associate Member
Simon Mullen and Patrick Kolis - Guests, Towamencin residents

Absent: Kelly Bonsignore

1. Call to order: 7:00pm
2. Opening comments: Rich let the members know that the EAC contact information is in the EAC Google Drive.
3. Public Comments: Simon introduced himself as a resident who works as a geologist in brownfields consulting. Patrick gave the members a quick overview of his proposal for the Township to start a yard waste recycling program and said he will be on the June meeting agenda.
4. Minute Approval: Rain Garden Cleanup on 4/17 went well, Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy said the plant species in the rain garden are beneficial and the cedar trees will need to be managed. PWC would like to prepare a Rain Garden maintenance plan. The turf grass at the outlet should be removed. Joe will contact PWC to schedule a meeting with Jesse and Dave Hillmantel. The Invasive Plant Removal on 4/20 went well with thistle removed from the Rain Garden and invasives removed throughout Fischer's Park. Towamencin Day on 5/11 went well, the EAC had 2 tables and presented stormwater management and native & invasive plant information. David M. prepared a scavenger hunt with prizes and there was a Rain Barrel raffle.
5. Old Business:
 - a. Project update 2024
 - i. No Mow Area- Vanessa gave an update on grants. The EAC may be able to obtain PWC or NPWA grants for areas other than the Township Building no-mow area. Some grants may require staff to be Tree Tenders. Jesse can

- ii. PHS Treevitalize grant. Montco Conservation District has other grants. Brett will talk to Mary Stover at CKS and David Hillmantel.
 - b. EAC subsidy of 6/20 PWC Rain Barrel workshop – A motion was made by Vanessa, seconded by David M., and approved.
6. New Business:
- a. Invasive Plant Education/Removal – Look into whether the Bradford Pear trees in Kibbler Meadow can be removed. David M. to coordinate with the Board of Supervisors and PWC to create an informal certification ‘Citizen Corp. for Invasive Removal’ for resident volunteers through a workshop.
 - b. Morgan Log House Pollinator Garden – Rory will contact the new director Molly to discuss the EAC helping to refresh the garden.
 - c. Hosting the Annual State EAC Fall Gathering – Montco Planning Commission contacted Rory to see if Towamencin EAC would host in conjunction with Lansdale and Upper Gwynedd EACs. The EACs would be responsible for coordinating the location, theme, and speakers. Rory made a motion and David M. seconded the motion, Rory and Donna approved, Rich, Brett, Vaness, Joe and David M. did not approve. Motion not approved.
7. Township Updates: David K. said that the farming agreement for Fischer’s Park may be revised to keep it.
8. Budget: no update
9. Upcoming Events:
- a. Rain Barrel Workshop- June 20th- the next step is to develop an advertisement.
10. Other Business:
- a. Dark Skies – move to June meeting agenda
 - b. MS4 updates to Township – before 6/30
11. Adjournment: 9:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Donna Hegge, Vice Chairperson