

**Towamencin Township
Environmental Advisory Council
Minutes of the April 8, 2025 Meeting**

Present:

EAC members: Rory Kelley, David McCreary, Kelly Bonsignore, Joseph (Joe) Meehan, Vanessa Gaynor, Donna Hegge, Rich Costlow, Brett MacKay

Township Manager: Dave Kraynik

Towamencin residents: Bruce Bailey, Casey Hennings, Corina Fiore, Kimberly Libby, Jenn Foster

1. Call to order: 7pm

2. Opening comments:

3. Public Comments: Public concern regarding Freddy Hill sale, especially from a stance of open space, recreation, and being near creek tributary.

4. Approval of minutes- Joe Meehan approved the minutes, Brett seconded. Minutes were approved.

5. New Business

a. America 250 Committee- In preparation for the 250 anniversary of the USA- representative from our committee, needed by the end of April. Each township committee requested to have a member.

b. Feral Cat Ordinance discussion- Jenn Foster talked about the feral cat issue at Towamencin Condominium. The cats pose a danger to the local environment. She would like an ordinance to permit TNR (trap, neuter, and release). Towamencin Condominium HOA doesn't permit TNR in place and an ordinance would be beneficial to contribute to the township safety as well being in alignment with Bird Town. Stray Cat Blues could assist. Dave K would like more information from township perspective. Jenn suggested offering traps from the township for the public to use. The police or an Animal Control Agent would be necessary to ensure compliance. Township would be included in the discussion for enforcement. Benefit to TNR is to slowly reduce the cat colony and prevent another colony from coming in. If the cat is able to be socialized, that would be preferred to releasing. Bird Town goals include educating and creating ordinances regarding stray and feral cats. Concern for environment when releasing the cats was discussed. Plan to talk to other townships with other Bird Town committees who have these ordinances.

6. Old Business

a. 2025 projects

i. No Mow- Regarding the area in front of the township building, the EAC will get a quote for the herbicide two times this year. Bruce will assist in getting quotes.

ii. PWC Municipal Grant- Donna and Mary met at Bustard Road Park to look at the potential site for a 75 foot long swale. The area backs up to a resident and the water goes into

the neighbor's yard. Jessie Kemper from PWC will meet with Donna to provide feedback for the validity of the project for the grant, by May 1. Need to talk to Public Works to get them to help with moving dirt to prepare space for the swale. Volunteers from the township can help with the PWC.

iii. Morgan Log House Demonstration Pollinator Garden- Journeywork has submitted the DCNR C2P2 grant to the state. Township has agreed to support by watering the native plants in the fall and providing marketing for resident education. Grant will be reviewed in 2025 for implementation starting 2026.

iv. Towamencin Day- May 10th 12-4p. 10:30am set up. Bruce and Rich are planning to plant a tree at Fischer's. Journeywork and EnAct will join the EAC and Bird Town tables. PWC could possibly come. Giveaways include birdhouses and a pollinator set from Journeywork

v. Workshops- Rory to investigate another Rain Barrel workshop. Dave can give a workshop on natural lawn conversion and native plants. Corina Fiore offered to do a children's workshop. She will come up with a proposal for an educational workshop.

vi. 2024 report- No discussion during the meeting

b. Budget

7. Bird Town PA Subcommittee- committee met with Heidi Shiver a few weeks ago to review resources and annual reporting. She recommended we focus on three projects this year. First public meeting will be this Thursday, at 7pm to introduce Bird Town and determine the projects. The street signs for the township will be presented by Bird Town PA during the April 23rd supervisors meeting .

8. Township Updates (Informational) - Dave/Colleen/Joyce-The EAC met with Public Works in December 2024 to ask how they can assist public works with environmental education. Public Works reported that some people dump leaves into the creeks. Mary Stover would be aware of issues for her MS4 report. A newsletter could provide information to educate people about how to prevent flooding.

9. Upcoming Events -

a. PWC Stream Clean-up - 4/12/25

b. Invasive Species Removal - 4/19/25 9 am - 12 pm

c. Towamencin Day – 5/10/2025 12 pm - 4 pm

d. Electronics Recycling at NPHS 9-12 June 14, 2025

10. Any other business and closing

11. Adjournment Brett, proposed adjournment; Donna seconded at 8:53pm.

12. Next meeting May 13, 2025 at 7pm at Township Building

