

**Horsham Township
Environmental Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
March 22, 2022**

In attendance:

BOARD:

Marc Newell, Chairperson
Steve Quigley, Vice Chairman
Joanne Coniglio, Secretary (absent)
Ashlee Biondo
Sharon Diasio
Robert Ehlenberger
Arezo Siegfried

STAFF:

Larry Burns, Director of Community &
Economic Development

AUDIENCE:

Mr. Newell called the meeting to order at 7:09pm.

Mr. Newell asked for the will of the board regarding the minutes of the board meeting of February 22, 2022. Ms. Diasio motioned for approval, second by Ms. Siegfried. All in favor, motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Burns noted that after the last meeting that he had reviewed the Birdtown USA application and that he hoped in the coming week to send it to all board members. The application provides somewhat of a punch-list of efforts and requirements, some that volunteers could do, some that would need to be done in coordination with the school district, and some that we need to be done in cooperation with the township. He hoped that after a review by all, that we could discuss the topic in more depth at the next meeting.

Mr. Burns also noted that Earth Day was just around the corner and on the calendar for Friday, April 22nd, before our next meeting. He agreed to talk with the township manager and see if it made sense for the EAB to be involved in a tree planting event. Mr. Newell commented that the EAB over the years had looked at various Earth Day activities, such as cleaning up roads or parks in the township.

Mr. Burns also commented that we had discussed at the last meeting a plant-swap the day before Horsham Day. He said he had reached-out by email to Tina Fedorak, the former Chair of the EAB trying to get a better handle on the plant supplier contacts. Mr. Newell indicated that he had talked with Ms. Fedorak earlier in the day, but did not query her about those contacts. He agreed

to reach-out to her again for that purpose. The board talked generally about times, location and other aspects of the plant swap event. Discussion of a give-away touched on a tree, rose bush or event local gift cards. Handouts were also discussed including topics of stormwater, spotted lantern flies and other topics that might be hot this summer. Mr. Newell asked if there was any resolve regarding free trees or tree give away? Mr. Burns confirmed that both he and Ms. Coniglio had reached-out to the Arbor Day Foundation which in the past has provided free trees in the wake of natural disasters. While several efforts were made, the organization was not responsive. The board discussed if there were grants or donations available for tree replacement or restoration. Mr. Ehlenberger

Updates and Events:

Mr. Burns indicated there was no new update regarding the HLRA as nothing had significantly changed since last month.

Plan Reviews:

-Signature Homes, LLC – 130 Meetinghouse Road (22-01-S) was reviewed. The board had no comment.

-HTER Group, LLC – 233 Easton Road (21-11-D) was reviewed. The board had no comment.

Open Discussion

Mr. Newell asked if there was anything for open discussion? Mr. Ehlenberger asked whether the EAB had in the past integrated activities with the school district and whether that should be something we should prioritize? Mr. Burns confirmed the Jarrett Nature Center could be a good way to meet and integrate with school kids. It does a spring clean-up day and hosts other activities and that if board members attended their events, some cross-fertilization opportunities could result. The board talked at length different ways the EAB could engage students and the Horsham Community on environmental issues.

Public Comment:

Mr. Newell inquired if there was public comment. There was none. Mr. Newell reminded the board that the next meeting was to be on April 22nd at 7:00pm. With no further business, Mr. Newell adjourned the meeting at 7:47 pm.

Minutes were approved April 26, 2022

