



**Warrington Township  
Environmental Advisory Council**

**Minutes of the Hybrid Zoom/In-Person Meeting  
January 5, 2022**

- 1. Call To Order, Pledge Of Allegiance:** Fred Suffian, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:34pm. Present were: Mike Diorka, Supervisor; Fred Gaines, Supervisor; Ruth Schemm, Supervisor; Fred Suffian, Chairman; Ivy Ross, Vice Chairman; Todd Baratz, Secretary; Barbara Brown, Member; Joanne Mancini, Park and Recreation Liaison; Guy Powell, Member; Nick Weremeychik, Member; Adele Weremeychik, Member, Steve Palmieri, Member, Rick Weiss, Member of the Public.

Mr. Suffian led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

- 2. Public Comment:**

Lisa Macaulay spoke and stated that she is the service unit manager for Girl Scouts in the area. She would like to work with the EAC to line up an event in March or April. Would like to know what the EAC needs assistance with as it relates to the environment.

Ms. Brown mentioned that she thought maybe the Girl Scouts could add native plants around the bird blind.

Ms. Weremeychik agreed with Ms. Brown

Ms. Ross stated that Ms. Macaulay could work with Ms. Brown to move the process forward.

- 3. Approval of Minutes:**

Ms. Weremeychik stated that she and Mr. Weremeychik were not in attendance at the 12/1/21 meeting.

Mr. Baratz noted that he would amend the minutes.

Ms. Ross motioned to approve the minutes as amended.

Ms. Brown seconded the motion.

All approved.

- 4. Business:**

- a. Election of Officers - Group**

Ms. Brown motioned to nominate Mr. Suffian as the Chairman.

Ms. Brown motioned to nominate Ms. Ross as Vice Chairman.

Ms. Ross nominated Mr. Baratz as secretary

All were in favor of these nominations.

**b. Open Space Tree Removal by Resident - Ms. Ross**

Ms. Ross stated that there was a resident who lives on Greenridge Drive who decided that she did not like the way the trees looked on the Township open space property and hired a landscaper to take the trees and understory down.

Ms. Ross stated that this is the third time this has happened where residents feel they have the right to alter township property.

Ms. Ross showed some pictures of the area that had been modified.

Ms. Brown stated that a neighbor reported the incident.

Ms. Ross stated that the police officer that reviewed the incident stated that these were large old trees and that the office has pictures of the trees and a police report.

Mr. Suffian stated that we should put a value on the carbon sequestration that was provided by the trees and put a dollar value on that.

Mr. Gaines stated that the open space lines are only listed on the deed to the property.

**c. Bucks Beautiful Application - Ms. Ross**

Ms. Ross stated that we handed in a Bucks Beautiful application for upgrades on the Weisel Preserve.

**d. Weisel Preserve Spring Planting - Ms. Ross**

Ms. Ross stated that we already have \$40,000 from other grants for plantings and if we win the Bucks Beautiful grant it will be a total of \$45,000. The grants are up in June or July of 2022 so the plantings must be completed this spring.

Ms. Ross stated that Mr. Luber would like the landscaper to plant the trees because they are of a large size.

Mr. Suffian stated that this would allow the EAC to focus on the work around the bird blind.

**e. Lions Pride Bird House Garden - Mr. Ross**

Mr. Suffian stated that public works was kind enough to install the showcase bird houses outside of Lions Pride Park. The first time they were installed with stop sign posts and they did not look right. They were reinstalled with Cedar posts.

Mr. Suffian stated that the posts will have small signs on the posts that describe the houses and where they can be purchased.

**f. Lions Pride Maintenance - Ms. Ross**

Ms. Ross stated that the mountain at Lions Pride was planted with pollinator plants surrounded by no-mow zones and after three seasons a lot of invasives have appeared at the mountain.

Ms. Ross stated that we need experts to teach us how to maintain this area.

Ms. Ross stated that having experts remediate the area will not cost any more than having Public Works handle the problem and they will teach us how to manage the area moving forward.

**g. Trails Grant - EAC Contribution - Ms. Ross**

Ms. Ross stated that we won two large grants in the last two weeks. The first was a \$500,000 to build a new building that will replace the room that was used for Community Service Day at the former Twin Oaks Day Camp.

Ms. Ross stated that the second grant was for \$350,000 from DCNR to fill in the connection between the Weisel Preserve and Lower State Road and Pickertown Road to Bellflower Blvd.

Ms. Ross stated the trail would also create access into the Mill Creek Preserve.

**h. Mill Creek Meadows Update - Ms. Ross**

Mr. Suffian stated that he and Mr. Oles and Ms. Ross meet with Indigenous Ingenuities, LLC, at the Mill Creek Preserve to discuss ideas for meadow plantings in the converted cornfields. This company specializes in meadow creation, maintenance of invasive species and wetlands.

**i. Edible Forest Improvements and Proposal - Mr. Suffian**

Mr. Suffian stated that he is looking to update the "edible forest" area between the bird blind and the power line trail.

Mr. Suffian also stated that the Emerald Ash Borer and the recent hurricane did a lot of damage to the area and that it needs to be refurbished.

Mr. Suffian stated that the work would be done by the EAC and community volunteers.

Mr. Suffian stated that the EAC already has approval to purchase 15 trees.

Ms. Macaulay stated that she would be interested in this project.

Ms. Brown stated that this area could be combined with the bird blind work.

Ms. Ross stated that this could be combined with an educational component as well.

Mr. Suffian stated that he and Ms. Ross spoke to PHS who is coming out with their bare root tree program this spring. Mr. Suffian and Ms. Ross communicated with Joe Knox and Barry Lubber and gained support for acquiring 15 trees.

Mr. Suffian asked for a motion to do use Indigenous Ingenuities to help clean up the area near the bird blind.

Ms. Brown motioned that we spend up to \$2000 on Indigenous Ingenuities to do work at Nike Park near the bird blind. Mr. Powell seconded. The motion was unanimous.

**j. Climate Action Plan Update - Mr. Suffian**

Mr. Suffian stated that at the Board of Supervisors meeting the EAC was given the green light to move ahead with the questionnaire.

Mr. Suffian stated that Ms. Weremeychik posted the questionnaire to the EAC Facebook page.

Mr. Suffian also stated that the plan is to post it to the township Facebook page and E-Link.

**k. Open Space Update - Ms. Ross**

Ms. Ross stated that the township was working on the Saldo and as part of that the EAC reviewed the proposed landscape ordinance.

Ms. Ross stated that the ordinance is for new developments and that the native plants are set at 80%.

Mr. Gaines stated that the tree replacement section should be reviewed when it is published.

**5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Ms. Ross stated that Cardimone put together waiver requests for the Zoning and Hearing Board. One request was to not have to do a landscaping plan because they are planning on doing much planting.

Ms. Ross also stated that a house on Pickertown Road will be brought up at the open space meeting. The potential owner wants to put up a pole barn and other structures for animals on the property, which is designated as open space. It is a privately owned conservation easement.

**6. ADJOURN**

Ms. Brown motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Mr. Palmieri seconded the motion.

All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 9:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Todd Baratz  
EAC Secretary