



**Warrington Township  
Environmental Advisory Council**

**Minutes of the Hybrid Zoom/In-Person Meeting  
January 4, 2023**

- 1. Call To Order, Pledge of Allegiance:** Fred Suffian, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:31pm. Present were Fred Suffian, Chairman; Ivy Ross, Vice Chairman; Nick Weremeychik, Member; Adele Weremeychik, Member; Todd Baratz, Secretary; Marilyn Laurelli, Member; Ruth Schemm, Supervisor; Scott Vogin, Bike and Hike Liaison; Vinobha Pannerselvam, Member; Fred Gaines, Supervisor; James Keyser, Park and Rec Liaison; Guy Powell, Member; Barbara Brown, Member.

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

- 2. Public Comment:**

Attending from the public - Bonnie Stetson, Zijun Xu  
There was no public comment.

- 3. Approval of Minutes:**

Ms. Weremeychik motioned to approve the minutes. Ms. Brown seconded.  
All were in favor.

- 4. Business:**

- a. Election of Officers - Group**

Mr. Suffian asked for any nominations for EAC Chair. Ms. Brown nominated Mr. Suffian. Ms. Laurelli seconded the nomination. All were in favor.

Mr. Suffian asked for any nominations for Vice Chair. Ms. Brown nominated Ms. Ross. Ms. Laurelli seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Mr. Suffian asked for any nominations for Secretary. Ms. Ross nominated Mr. Baratz. Ms. Weremeychik seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Mr. Suffian asked for any nominations for Project Manager. Ms. Ross nominated Ms. Brown as Project Manager. Ms. Laurelli seconded the motion. All were in favor.

- b. Recommendation of Appointment of Bonnie Stetson – Group**

Mr. Suffian made a motion that the EAC recommend to the BOS that Ms. Stetson be appointed to the board as an associate member. Ms. Brown seconded the motion. All were in favor.

- c. Trail Segments B & C - Ms. Ross**

Ms. Ross stated that Segments B and C trails have been laid out and stoned. It has not been paved because of the weather. Ms. Ross also reported that signaling for the trails has been started.

**d. Palomino Outflow Channel Project - Ms. Ross**

Ms. Ross stated that the township put in an application for the Palomino Outflow Channel Project to fix the deteriorated outflow channel. The project is a \$750,000 project. DCNR pays \$500,000 and the township pays \$250,000, if awarded.

Mr. Suffian stated that he hopes that if we do win the grant, that we do not use the 40-50 year old process that was used for the outflow originally, but use the new process that holds up with age rather than get weaker.

Mr. Suffian asked if the application included any vegetation. Ms. Ross responded that it did not.

**e. Master Plan Update - Ms. Laurelli**

Ms. Laurelli stated that the next meeting will be on Thursday January 12th at 7:00pm. There are 9 members, 4 from the High Gate neighborhood and one from Pickertown Road.

Ms. Laurelli stated that the committee is ready to begin working on the business of the committee.

Ms. Laurelli stated that she would like to know if the EAC had any topics that should be brought to the committee for discussion.

Mr. Suffian stated that the EAC should submit to the Supervisors what the board would like to see in the Master Plan.

**f. Stream Health Project in March - Mr. Suffian**

Mr. Suffian stated the Stream Health project kicked off on Warrington Day with a water quality and pollinator workshop.

Mr. Suffian stated that the grant supports 3 workshops. The first one was completed on Warrington Day. The second workshop is scheduled for March and is on stream bank stabilization. Mr. Suffian proposed focusing on Mill Creek.

Ms. Brown asked if the workshop had to be done in March.

Ms. Ross responded "yes"--according to the Penn State Extension and the Bucks County Conservation District, this is the best time to live staking.

Ms. Ross further stated that the live staking should be conducted with homeowners, for educational purposes, that live near stream channels.

Ms. Ross stated that we are funded for 300 live stakes and 500 pollinator plugs for the March event.

Ms. Brown asked if the pollinator plugs can be planted at a later time.

Ms. Ross stated that would be possible.

Ms. Schemm suggested that the EAC contact Bill Connelly regarding doing the work at the Mill Creek Preserve, as he is the Chairman of the Mill Creek Ad-Hoc Committee.

Ms. Ross stated that she spoke with him yesterday.

Ms. Ross stated that maybe Ms. Laurelli should contact Mr. Connelly.

Mr. Suffian expressed concern about having to get permission from the newly formed committee for projects that have been on the books since this committee is newly formed.

Ms. Ross suggested maybe having the stream project in a different location to avoid the issues associated with doing this project at the preserve, at this time.

**g. Meadows Project Update - Mr. Suffian**

Mr. Suffian stated that there is not much left to say on the Meadows Project. A bid package needs to be put together.

Ms. Ross stated that the bid package will take some time to put together.

**h. Plastic Bag Ban - Mr. Suffian**

Mr. Suffian reported that he reached out to the Bucks Montco consortium, and they invited the EAC to join the consortium. Mr. Suffian showed an email from Richard Metz with a link to a Google Document list with information on the consortium.

Ms. Ross asked if the townships shown were doing a plastic bag ban. Mr. Suffian responded that he did not know.

Mr. Gaines stated that the plastic bag ban was low on the priority list of the existing members of the Board of Supervisors.

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

Ms. Ross stated that Danny Jacobson's Eagle Scott project is moving along. He is raising money by selling "snowflakes". The Parks and Recreation board would like Mr.

Jacobson to present to them his project, since his Chimney Swift Tower will be placed in one of the public parks. Mr. Jacobson.

Ms. Ross stated that Lions Pride Park might not be the best place for the tower. Mr. Pannerselvam suggested that Lower Nike Park might be a good location.

Ms. Ross also stated that she will be discussing the level of protection that will be placed on open space parcels. Ms. Ross also reported that no active current parks with sports fields will have any extra levels of protections placed on them. This will give the sports organization the ability to expand and add any necessary amenities.

Ms. Ross then reported that there are three levels of protection that are being proposed. Once approved it will be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors for their approval. Level 1 protection will have the strictest protection with an easement holder, such as the Heritage Conservancy. Level 2 protection is a lesser level of protection but will make it a little more difficult to develop on a parcel with that protection. An active public participation process and addition of a solicitor would need to be implemented, in order to expand or build. Level 3 is no protection at all and would cover sports fields and a few areas to give the township the ability to build salt sheds and other structures, if needed.

**5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS-**

Mr. Suffian asked if the EAC is promoting Mr. Jacobson's snowflakes on the EAC Facebook page.

Mr. Vogin stated that the Bike and Hike committee is looking into doing an education program on trail etiquette.

Ms. Ross thanked Ms. Schemm who is the new Supervisor liaison to the EAC for this year.

**6. ADJOURN**

Mr. Baratz made a motion to adjourn.

Ms. Brown seconded the motion.

All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 9:19pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Todd Baratz  
EAC Secretary