

**Easttown Township**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting Agenda**  
**January 26, 2023, 7:00pm**

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT NOVEMBER 30, 2022 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
3. SELECTION OF NEW POSITIONS FOR 2023
4. EAC GOAL SETTING FOR 2023
5. CONSIDERATION OF PRESENTATION BY PETE GOODMAN ON ROAD SALT
6. CONSIDERATION OF NEXT TREX BENCH LOCATION
7. LIAISON REPORTS
  - A. Board of Supervisors
  - B. Parks and Recreation Board
  - C. ROSERP Task Force
  - D. Planning Commission
  - E. ECAC – Township Building Design
  - F. COP27 Climate Conference
8. OTHER BUSINESS
  - A. Rain Garden Program Discussion
  - B. Street Tree Planning and Implementation Discussion
  - C. Grant Repository Review
  - D. Seed Library Donations
9. ANNOUNCEMENTS – Next regularly scheduled meeting is Thursday February 23, 2023 at 7:00 PM.
10. PUBLIC COMMENT
11. ADJOURNMENT

**EASTTOWN TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING  
MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, November 30, 2022

The special meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairperson Cara Rash. Environmental Advisory Councilmembers in attendance were Gary Ellis, Kate Goddard Doms, Cara Rash, and Radha Pyati. Councilmember Heather Hill was excused. Also attending were Supervisor Alex Losco and Eugene Briggs, Township Manager.

**Consideration of Draft October 27, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes.**

The October minutes were approved with a motion, second, and 4-0 vote.

**Discussion of Rain Garden Pilot Program.**

Councilmember Doms led the discussion on the rain garden pilot program. Two gardens were proposed in the budget request. One homeowner has expressed interest, and Councilmember Heather Hill did an initial assessment of the site. A second garden could be placed in a public location, perhaps at the Twp garage near Potter Avenue, Hilltop House, or Beaumont Elementary School. The Library is not interested. Secretary Pyati noted that the 2023 budget with EAC items was approved at a Board of Supervisors meeting. Growing Greener grants to support and extend this program are likely to be due in June 2023, if last year's deadline of June 2022 is the same as this year.

**Discussion of Tree Lighting Table and Signage Distribution Strategy.**

Councilmembers Doms and Hill will be staffing a table at the Berwyn tree lighting event and will distribute the Township cloth bags. The Library will distribute the rest of the bags. There is interest in the community in a second round of bags, but the EAC does not have funds in the budget to produce another set. They cost \$3,500 for 500 bags. For the single-use plastic bag signage, businesses can download the signage images directly from the Twp website, and the Twp can make cardstock available.

**Consideration of Seed Library Instructions.**

The EAC members reviewed the draft instructions that Chairperson Rash had sent in advance of the meeting. A QR code leading to the EAC website will be added to the instructions. Copies of the instructions will be sent to the Library, and she will ask the Library to add information about the seed library to the Library website. Secretary Pyati will have information about the seed library added to the EAC website.

**Liaison Report – Board of Supervisors.**

The November 7 meeting focused heavily upon the budget. David Fiorenza, Twp Finance Director, gave a presentation on how to balance the budget. The brining truck and the leaf vacuum truck are being deferred. Secretary Pyati reported briefly on the budget discussion at the November 21 meeting.

**Liaison Report – Planning Commission.**

Vice Chair Ellis reported that the PC addressed four items at their last meeting: the Berwyn Fire Company building; a fence in a riparian buffer in Leopard Lakes; a pocket park near Devereux Highland Ave; and a \$1.5M grant that the Twp applied for to support renovations for pedestrians at the Devon train station.

**Liaison Report – Parks and Recreation Board.**

Councilmember Hill's report was provided by Chairperson Rash. There will be a user fee of \$25 per two hours to rent the pavilion at Johnson Park. A program for memorial trees will be available in early spring; the buyer of the tree will choose from a list of native species and purchase the tree.

**Liaison Report – Recreation, Open Space, and Environmental Resources Plan Task Force.**

The ROSERP public forum on November 16 was well-attended; 55-60 people were present and expressed what they would like to see in the Twp's open space. Two areas received the most comments: Old Berwyn and the Devon Horse Show area. The next task force meeting is in January 2023. At present zoning requirements for 10 or more units include either open space or payment in lieu of open space. The Twp's Easttown Citizens Advisory Committee (ECAC) is considering the finances of fees in lieu of open space.

**New Township Building Work Group.**

Chairperson Rash attended the ECAC meeting on December 17 at which the Twp building was discussed. Seeking LEED Bronze status was discussed; it is hoped that the building can reach a higher LEED level than Bronze. The EAC discussed several potential ideas including collection of rainwater or graywater, electric vehicle charging stations, and solar panels. The Twp building currently uses geothermal energy and that can be advertised.

**Compost Program Implementation.**

Chairperson Rash reported that the program is operational and that 9-10 people are dropping off compost. There have been two collections so far.

**Grant Finding and Writing Workshop.**

This matter was tabled. Secretary Pyati will share the grant list spreadsheet with the EAC.

**Other Preliminary Goals for 2023.**

The EAC's goals for 2023 already include the rain garden and street tree programs, for which funding has been budgeted. Another 2023 effort will be an ongoing contribution toward the design of the new Twp building and review of what other municipalities are doing to build greener buildings.

The next EAC E-newsletter will go out at the end of January 2023. Article ideas were discussed, including a street tree article by Vice Chair Ellis and Bill Hartman, a rain garden article by Councilmember Doms, a seed library article by Chairperson Rash, and an article on geothermal building by Secretary Pyati.

Other ideas for 2023 include an eco-house tour with such sites as a green roof, a bioswale, and a pollinator garden; efforts to make the Twp carbon-neutral, considering its vehicle fleet, purchasing, and energy offsets; and the use of Trex benches in locations that are already in need of replacement benches.

**New Business.**

Vice Chair Ellis proposed a resolution of appreciation for the service of Eugene Briggs, Township Manager, who is departing the Twp for a new position. The resolution was moved, seconded, and passed 4-0.

**Public Comment.**

There was no public comment.

**Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting.**

The EAC moved, seconded, and voted 4-0 to cancel the December 22, 2022 meeting. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 26, 2023.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Radha Pyati  
Secretary, Easttown EAC

DRAFT