



# UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP

175 W. Valley Forge Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406-1802

## ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

March 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting at 6:30 PM

Meeting Called to Order at 6:38 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

### Attendance:

**In Person:** Zachary Davis, Vicki Meitus, Theresa Landewe, Mark Vondra, Carole Kenney  
**Zoom:** Louise Willis, Jocelyn Bilker, Kabrinda Shakaya  
**Absent:** Rose Grosso, Joel Miner

Approval of February 14, 2024 Meeting Minutes: Theresa moved, Mark seconded and all in favor.

### Reports and Discussions

#### 1. Plastic Pollution Reduction Ordinance Updates:

Discussed where Ordinance is being followed or not. Some businesses trying to use up their stock. Talked re: what materials are acceptable and what not, i.e. straws where some seem acceptable but really aren't i.e. CPLA/PLA: polylactic acid. Ordinance says no biologically derived plastic. (PFAS or PFOS can be concern to fire department)  
Manager of the Restaurant Store in Norristown, Peter Bensch, is trying to get information that would be helpful to let businesses know what is allowed or not.  
Zach indicated in other townships that fast food locations are charging for bags.

2. Rain Garden Updates: Theresa reported working on a date. Public works will be doing ground work at the end of March. Rain garden either April 20<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup> with priority to April 27<sup>th</sup> or 28<sup>th</sup>. Looking into scheduling on Saturday with 2 hour shifts, from 9:00-1:00 PM. Rain date would be Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>. Plants have been ordered. Will be ready in April. Sign being worked on.

#### 3. BCA Grants 2024 – Due Date April 1

- Discussion: discussed options 1) healthy lawn program 2) additional rain garden site 3) EV chargers. (maybe a joint application with Community Center).
- Theresa brought up supporting Shade tree regarding the Healthy Lawn initiative

4. Artificial Turf Updates: Carole and Zach toured the high school. Talked about schools indicating they are "built to LEED Gold standard" but not certified. There have been numerous articles lately in newspapers regarding artificial turf and the negatives related to it. Zach will be bring up at the County Level. Talked re: time frame artificial turf life

5. Wastewater Treatment Facility: Carole reported there is a meeting with Villanova, regarding the HTC system. Going is Diane Reilly, Carole Kenney, Geoff Hickman, Kabindra Shakya, and Zach Davis.



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- 6. Comprehensive Plan (Transportation, parking, Rambler) discussion:
  - Carole reported they are meeting monthly to discuss and work on what the township should put into the comprehensive plan. Open for ideas.
  - Discussed Rambler and what its ridership is like. Possibly look at the schedule and stops, connectivity to the township

- 7. Shade Tree Bamboo/Invasive Plants Ordinance: tabled
- 8. Scrub & Pub Street and Stream Clean-Up: Sponsored by Schuylkill Action Network
  - Thursday, March 21st; 2:30 PM at Ross Road Field

## New Business

- 1. Lower Merion Letter of Support for Community Solar Bill in PA House. Zach will have more information.
- 2. Mark mentioned that Parks and Recs is working on the Heuser Park plans.
- 3. Talked re: Board of Supervisors joint meetings coming up in April/May with the different Citizens Boards. Zach discussed putting together a slide presentation. Discuss next meeting

Public Comment: none

Adjournment : Mark moved to adjourn meeting and Theresa at 8:40 PM

Submitted by: V. Meitus, Secretary

Approved by: Zachary Davis

Date: 10 Apr 2024

Signature: [Handwritten Signature]