

APPROVED
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
March 2, 2021
VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES

Virtual Meeting began at 7:30PM.

Present: Paul Minor, Letty Savage, Jim Porcelli, Stephanie Gundling, Cassandra Miller-Butterworth, Denise Rose, Rege Ebner

Guest: Councilman Tom Schwartzmier and resident Chris Hartigan

February 2, 2021 Meeting Minutes were previously approved.

Old Business:

- Update on glass recycling

A collection bin for recycling glass is currently in place in the Borough Administration Building parking lot. Noise has not been a problem and at this time the effort appears to be very successful. The bin has a sensor to determine when the bin is full and ready to be replaced with an empty container.

- Update on deer management options

The 2020 - 2021 season for Suburban Whitetail Management, LLC (SWM) produced a lower number of deer. We discussed what may be a relatively high threshold to qualify hunters for participating in this deer management effort. We decided to evaluate the program next year to determine if there may be any further recommendations.

New Business:

- Deer Impact Assessment and Mitigation Summit (March 25, 30 and April 1)

Currently two EAC members have signed up to participate in this virtual program. We discussed for those who could not attend that they could sign up and may be able to view the recordings of the seminar at a later time.

- Solar panel updates

There was a concern expressed that during the recent snowfall the snow layer on top of the solar panels will lower their efficiency. Paul Minor indicated that the efficiency will be lowered while there is a layer of snow on them, but that with adequate sunlight or warmer temperatures the snow slides from the solar panels thereby once again exposing the solar panels to the full sunlight. If it is determined that the solar panels that may be installed on Borough Buildings may drop snow at an entrance to a building, then it is possible to add snow guards to eliminate or minimize such action.

- Potential environmental issues for unoccupied buildings

Such a topic is not the proper for evaluation by the EAC. The Borough, as necessary, monitors unoccupied buildings to confirm that building codes and the building ordinances are followed.

- Big Sewickley Creek resolution

The Borough has endorsed the effort of Rivers Conservation and Stewardship Plan for the Big Sewickley Creek Watershed and has signed a resolution requesting that parts of the Creek be listed on the Pennsylvania Rivers Registry.

- Master Watershed Steward training

Rege signed up for the Master Watershed Steward Program offered by the Penn State Extension to learn about watershed management and to educate the community about watershed stewardship based upon university research and recommendations.

- Recycling Poster

Steff provided to each of us a draft poster suggested for use by the Borough residents to assist in determining what may be recycled and where it may be recycled. The EAC members will provide feedback within the next two weeks so that we may have a constructive conversation about how to, if necessary, amend or change the poster to optimize the value it may have to Borough residents.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM

Jim Porcelli

EAC chair