

**APPROVED
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
August 3, 2021
VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES**

Virtual Meeting began at 7:30PM.

Present: Paul Minor, Letty Savage, Jim Porcelli, Denise Rose, Chris Hartigan, and Rege Ebner

Absent: Cassandra Miller-Butterworth, Stephanie Gundling

Guests: Diane Spellman; PennEnergy Resources – Richard Watson and S. Casey Bowers; Little Sewickley Creek Watershed Association – Steven Pukansky; Greg Baker; Justin Beall’s Landscape Service – Raymond McGuire; Black Oak Investment – Sean Carmody, Anne Hatten, and Randy Bowers

There was no July meeting so no meeting minutes to approve.

Old business

- Update on deer management options

We are delaying this discussion until our next meeting.

- Butterfly Pledge

We will further review the proposed butterfly pledge and discuss it next month

New Business

- Festival in the Park (June 26, 2021) Summary

We are delaying this discussion until our next meeting.

- Bamboo as invasive species in the Borough

Diane Spellman expressed concern about the propagation of running Bamboo on private land in the Borough. Running bamboo is also present in Blueberry Hill Park, Old Orchard Park and Acorn Park. The EAC will compose and publish an article for the Franklin Park newsletter listing this and other invasive species to encourage residents to avoid certain plants/bushes and to highlight problems caused by and the difficulty in controlling/eradicating such foliage once it is established.

- Diversion of water from Big Sewickley Creek and North Fork of Big Sewickley Creek by PennEnergy Resources for drilling and hydro-fracking of natural gas wells.

Richard Watson and S. Casey Bowers explained in detail the proposed processes intended to be used along with the necessary permits required to extract water from the Big Sewickley Creek and the North Fork of the Big Sewickley Creek. This activity is controlled by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the EAC suggests sending a letter to the PA DEP highlighting the Borough’s interest in this project and the Borough’s belief that the PA DEP will be diligent in their duty to protect these creeks.

- Plans to review

- Power Home Solar Conditional Use Application

The EAC has no comments on the drawings we reviewed. There were no landscape details. In the event landscaping is required, the EAC will revisit this matter.

- Greg Baker Conditional Use Application

The EAC has no comments on the drawing we reviewed. There were no landscape details. In the event landscaping is required, the EAC will revisit this matter.

- Justin Beall's Landscape Conditional Use Application

The EAC has no objections to the associated landscape plans. As a general comment, we suggest planting in the early spring or in the fall to maximize chances of the plants/trees flourishing.

- Black Oak Investment Office Building Landscape Plan

The EAC has no objections to these landscape plans. As a general comment, we suggest planting in the early spring or in the fall to maximize chances of the plants/trees flourishing.

The meeting adjourned at about 9:00 PM.

Jim Porcelli
EAC Chair