

**I.**

- A. CALL TO ORDER:** The Environmental Advisory Council meeting of Lower Saucon Township was called to order on Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at 6:34 p.m. with Jennifer Helton presiding.
- B. ROLL CALL: Members:** Vice Chair, Jennifer Helton, Secretary, Laura Ray, Chad Heimbecker, Kathy Pichel McGovern, Allan Johnson (arrived at 6:37 p.m.); **Associate Members:** Janine Bohnam & Russell Sutton; **Staff:** Carol Schneider; **Jr. Council:** Harry Vicic; **Absent Member:** Chair, Dru Germanoski & Cheyenne Reiman; **Absent Associate Member:** Winfield Clark.
- C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- D. ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF APPLICABLE)** – None
- E. JUNIOR COUNCIL - HARRY VICIC** - Nothing to report

**II. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. REORGANIZATION**

**1. NOMINATION OF CHAIRMAN**

**MOTION BY:** Jennifer Helton moved to nominate Dru Germanoski as Chairman for 2025.

**SECOND BY:** Kathy Pichel-McGovern

**ROLL CALL:** 4-0-3 (Absent: Allan Johnson, Dru Germanoski & Cheyenne Reiman)

**2. NOMINATION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

**MOTION BY:** Kathy Pichel-McGovern moved to Jennifer Helton nominate as Vice Chair for 2025.

**SECOND BY:** Chad Heimbecker

**ROLL CALL:** 4-0-3 (Absent: Allan Johnson, Dru Germanoski & Cheyenne Reiman)

**3. NOMINATION OF SECRETARY**

**MOTION BY:** Jennifer Helton moved to nominate Kathy Pichel-McGovern as Secretary for 2025.

**SECOND BY:** Laura Ray

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0-2 (Absent: Dru Germanoski & Cheyenne Reiman)

**4. DESIGNATION OF EAC MEETING – TIME, DATE & PLACE**

**MOTION BY:** Jennifer Helton moved to have the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at Town Hall, starting at 7:00 p.m.

**SECOND BY:** Kathy Pichel-McGovern

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0-2 (Absent: Dru Germanoski & Cheyenne Reiman)

**B. Associate Member Vacancies/Review Applications**

**Jennifer Helton**

We have two openings for vacancies. In our packet, there were three resumes that were provided that had filled out. Did everyone get a chance to review that? Understand these are one year appointments that do not vote or, you know, obviously we hope as people move up in their experience and vacancies open, they would move into voting positions.

**Chad Heimbecker**

Does this include the prior submittals?

**Jennifer Helton**

Good question.

**Chad Heimbecker**

Is this all of them? Or were there two or three from November?

**Carol Schneider**

There was one that declined, she withdrew, and then one, I believe, was put on another board.

**Laura Ray**

Yeah, okay, yeah, there was a different name, and she's now our historic committee.

**Jennifer Helton**

Good, good. So, any comments on the three I want to open the floor. And any discussion we've had the positions open for a while, I think we need to move forward with the importance of filling these vacancies.

**Laura Ray**

Yeah, I'll go first. So, I do know Curt Balch and just through attending other meetings and things, I know he's passionate person. He is a stay-at-home dad, so I thought that was like a plus for him, because kind of makes him flexible to help participate in some of the unusual things that we sometimes need to do, because not all of us have that flexibility so that that is good. Like I said, he's very passionate. He's extremely well spoken, if we need anybody to speak, he's a speaker.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

He's also, has an MBA. He was in the army; he was a soldier. So, like, he had a he has a professional background in estate planning. I think it's state planning or whatever. So, my point is, is, he's kind of a well-rounded individual. I feel I do know him. I asked him if he was interested to apply, but I also think he has a very diverse background, which would be helpful.

**Jennifer Helton**

Thoughts on the three applicants?

**Chad Heimbecker**

I like that the first one has experience with Parks and Rec and the Rail Trail, so they seem involved with the environment already in ways that they can involve some of that planning and development. So, I appreciate that aspect of this applicant.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

The third applicant is the second time he has applied. I also asked him if he was interested. He wanted to be on the EAC. Also, he's a neighbor of mine. He lives on the other side of town, sort of thing. I know his background is all criminal justice, but it is the second time he applied. He wants to get more involved in the township. I feel any person that applies twice like that, they want the position is, you know, far so I it definitely. He's a nice man, very easy to talk to. He very much likes township the way it is. You know, it's why he moved here. You know, it's, it's a group decision, but I just want everybody know that this is the second goal around, because the last time we said bingo.

**Jennifer Helton**

Russell, do you have any thoughts?

**Russell Sutton**

No, they all look good to me.

**Jennifer Helton**

Allan, do you have any discussion?

**Allan Johnson**

Well, I kind of felt that Frank Thompson would be good because he's can read drawings.

**Chad Heimbecker**

Yeah, reading plans and drawings as a skill set would be helpful for what we do. I agree with that, too. I would lean more favorably towards that candidate myself.

**Jennifer Helton**

I didn't hear you; I apologize.

**Chad Heimbecker**

I would lean towards the first candidate.

**Jennifer Helton**

We have two vacancies you're looking at. Okay, how do you want to vote?

**Chad Heimbecker**

Do we go through each one?

**Jennifer Helton**

Can someone make a motion, I guess I'll need two?

**Chad Heimbecker**

Do they come in to talk to them? Is that what happens they come in?

**Laura Ray**

I will say Frank actually serves on the Rail Trail board. So, Victoria knows him, because she's the liaison to that board. So, kind of one of the things we were trying to do when we got applicants before is just to try to give more people chances to do things. So that was our thought. He is still our rail trail representative.

**Allan Johnson**

Where is Felicity Lane?

**Carol Schneider**

I believe it's right up off of Skibo.

**Allan Johnson**

Oh, Four Seasons around that area.

**Chad Heimbecker**

In the interest of moving this forward, I would then nominate Frank Thompson and Curt Balch as the two.

**Laura Ray**

It might work better doing one by one.

**Jennifer Helton**

Yeah, okay, so you nominate Frank Thompson?

**Chad Heimbecker**

Let's do Frank Thompson.

**Jennifer Helton**

Okay, is there a second?

**Allan Johnson**

I'll do a second.

**Jennifer Helton**

I think one of my thoughts is, having positions open. You know, he would have two positions on board in the township, and I think it's good to have a variety. So that would be my hesitation.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

I would choose not to myself. So, I would say I don't even know the man, but I say no. I need same thing. He's also, he's been on all these boards. Get some fresh blood.

**Jennifer Helton**

Okay, so any more discussion? Anyone otherwise, we will go for motion.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

I think you just have to take a vote of each person.

**Jennifer Helton**

Yeah, we are for him. So, all in favor for Frank Thompson?

**Chad Heimbecker**

Aye.

**Allan Johnson**

Aye.

**Jennifer Helton**

Those not in favor.

**Laura Ray**

No.

**Jennifer Helton**

No.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

No.

**Jennifer Helton**

You're not a voting member, sorry. You can just enjoy. Three to two Carol and then Curt.

**Carol Schneider**

So that was two, for Frank and three against Frank?

**Chad Heimbecker**

Yes.

**MOTION BY:** Chad Heimbecker moved to nominate Frank Thompson as Associate Member

**SECOND BY:** Allan, 2-3-2 (Absent: Dru Germanoski & Cheyenne Reiman)

**Jennifer Helton**

The motion did not pass. I'm sorry. Thank you.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

I would like to nominate Curt Balch to be on the committee.

**Chad Heimbecker**

I'll second.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Thank you.

**Jennifer Helton**

Okay, any discussion? All those in favor?

**EAC**

Aye.

**MOTION BY:** Kathy Pichel McGovern moved to nominate Curt Balch as Associate Member

**SECOND BY:** Chad Heimbecker, 5-0-2 (Absent: Dru Germanoski & Cheyenne Reiman)

**Jennifer Helton**

Motion passes with five votes; motion moves and then Michael?

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

I will vouch for Michael, so I will nominate Mike.

**Jennifer Helton**

Is there a second?

**Laura Ray**

I will second that. It's a personal referral.

**Jennifer Helton**

Okay, any discussion. I. Okay, very diverse background with that being said. Can we get a vote on an acceptance of Michael being brought on the board?

**EAC**

Aye.

**Jennifer Helton**

Those opposed? Hearing none, he is now a associate member. Thank you.

**MOTION BY:** Kathy Pichel McGovern moved to nominate Michael Pittaro as Associate Member

**SECOND BY:** Laura Ray, 5-0-2 (Absent: Dru Germanoski & Cheyenne Reiman)

**C. Goals and Objectives for 2025**

**Jennifer Helton**

Next line item is just talking about goals and objectives. It was in the packet I don't have my computer. Do you have this? All right? So, as you know, we had a lot of good goals that we completed in 2024 and it's, it's great having items here so we can discuss and have focus. Hope everyone had an opportunity to go through our pending goals. One of the key ones with is that we do need to look at, and we're not deciding this now, so any additional feedback, but we do need to have a subcommittee to look at the open space. The plan that was written in 2007 really needs a hard look at. So, I would encourage that we kind of work on that. I know Kathy and I worked on the bylaws, which apparently wasn't on here, but we haven't moved forward. So we're going to pick that back up, because we have edited and we just need to see room move from there, the plastic bag ban is, you know, the subcommittee is working, hopefully in the next meeting, we can have that as a brief report. So, Carol, if you could probably add that? Chad, your thoughts?

**Chad Heimbecker**

Right now? Do you want talk about it?

**Jennifer Helton**

No, no, we could bring it up next month with more detail.

**Chad Heimbecker**

Yeah, this month, that's what I was thinking.

**Jennifer Helton**

Yeah. So, next month, you can kind of give us a subcommittee update.

**Chad Heimbecker**

Yes, okay.

**Jennifer Helton**

Perfect. I don't know if we have enough people, but are there anybody that's interested in the open space Action Plan working on that? Kathy? Russell, okay.

**Laura Ray**

I know I had jotted some notes. Dru asked to look at it the last time, and then we didn't really go into detail talking about it. So, I know I scribbled notes about, you know, different things that are obvious, that have to be updated there.

**Jennifer Helton**

And it may be where we can kick it off and start it. And all the notes, if we can provide them to you via email or some means.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

I'm going to nominate Dru as well, because I'm sure you'll be very vested in this.

**Jennifer Helton**

Yeah, absolutely. And then a lot of these things, you know, we want to do, like the compost workshop, recycling, host a large appliance and invite other townships, if that's an opportunity. Yeah, I know we have our litter pickup, we have our landfill, not landfill, our tire pickup. I don't know if we want to continue that.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Yeah, there's a couple things on here that, I mean, I remember when we made this, this list, there's a couple things in here that the large appliance day, it's not going to happen. They don't do that. They just without, it's significantly expensive. So, I looked into that like that was, it was an idea of mine, but it's going to be to cost prohibitive. Cathy Gorman and I spoke about the tires. And it's one of those like 5050, like, on the one hand, people know about it now, now. So on the one hand, we were thinking, maybe this year be more successful on one hand. On the other hand, people came and gave her tires, so maybe every other year. So, Cathy Gorman and I were kind of like, not quite sure. I'm just not quite.

**Laura Ray**

I know other places don't do it every year.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Right?

**Laura Ray**

Even the electronic recycling we would kind of alternate to sometimes, just because, right? A lot of places do it.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

So, that one is a question mark. A couple of these things, the House Bill I had started that that's on, again, we were talking about that very, very, quite a while ago, and it's very complicated, and we started talking about it, and then we decided at the time as a committee, to pull back a little bit from that one, because we were talking at the time of, how do you educate the public on how some of these bills even get passed, and how do you get you know, we were talking about Bob Freeman and Lisa Boscola at the time, and we decided as a group to pull back a little bit on that one. So, some of these, I guess what I'm trying to say is it needs to be tweaked a little bit.

**Allan Johnson**

You know, PPL will take your refrigerator as long as it runs and they give you, 50 bucks or 25 bucks.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

That's good to know that kind of stuff. That stuff should be out there.

**Allan Johnson**

Maybe you ought to promote it on the website.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

I didn't know that. I'll look into it and make sure to find out all the details. Is it just refrigerators, do you know? Or freezers too?

**Allan Johnson**

I don't know.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

I'll find out.

**Allan Johnson**

They took my refrigerator, and I think that's the only thing they'll take, right? Because people tend to have a lot of old refrigerators that they keep running, you know, they don't want to get rid of, keep the beer in, right? And it uses more electricity than new refrigerators, right? So that's why they promote people to get rid of them. They do say it has to run, though, yeah, I got rid of mine. They came and picked it up.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

That's good to know, though, and that's a nice thing to share the community.

**Jennifer Helton**

And I know one of them is hosting Penn State Extension, you know, we've got the water class on the website, so I think it'd be great to continue that relationship with them. And they do have a new extension individual that would love to probably come and do some public discussion. So, we'll look at that.

**Chad Heimbecker**

I signed up to do that well water testing thing, but it was already full. I don't know that I'm going to be able to do the one that's upcoming, but I'm going to keep an eye open on that.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

I signed up for it.

**Jennifer Helton**

I did too. And, I mean, we can send you the link.

**Chad Heimbecker**

Well, I mean, we'll see how it happens.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

It's a webinar.

**Chad Heimbecker**

There was a wait list, yeah, well, and I think they do free water testing then too. So, they only have so many batches.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

And its free water testing now, that's it could be something different than the webinar. But once upon a time, you went to Gracedale, you know, that's for the Penn State Extension, and then you, you went to the well water presentation, and you brought your water with you, because we did that probably 10 years ago. Okay, but that was when everything was in person, this is a webinar.

**Chad Heimbecker**

I've never taken water there to be tested when I moved in, but I haven't been there since. Anyways, lot of good information resources they have on their website and webinars and different topics to stay up on. As far as having someone come the as we were just talking earlier about their master watershed program, I'm sure that they have access and plenty of resources for people who would want to come in and speak on that topic as well.

**Jennifer Helton**

Yeah, I agree.

**Allan Johnson**

Two other webinars and but they were not just one day. They were like, four weeks, one day for four weeks and they were great.

**Chad Heimbecker**

Was that paid or free?

**Allan Johnson**

I think I had to pay like \$30 or something like that, and you got gobs of information, more than stuff you could ever absorb, but it was all on the website, and I think you could continue to download it for some period of time after the thing was over.

**Chad Heimbecker**

Yeah, these goals to break it down a little bit. There's some internal work in here. There's a community events, there's education. So, I don't know if maybe we can organize this in some way. And then I would like to, as I keep saying, I'd like. To have a calendar outlined when we're actually going to do some of these based on the seasons. And you know when it starts getting warmer out, have outdoor activities.

**Jennifer Helton**

I will try to get some of this organized, and we can try to start putting it like in a calendar, yeah, and that way we can see it and visually say, okay, we're going to have our trash pickup on this date, and then, you know, we'll know if we want to do another event.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

It also helps to plan too.

**Chad Heimbecker**

We did have a spreadsheet at one point that was running with who would sign up next to it for helping to take the reins.



**Jennifer Helton**

We need to get Dru, because Kathy really did this. I just, we just kind of coordinated so we could talk about and present what we had completed and what was still pending. Think Dru was going to make it so we could share it, and so we'll get that, and then we maybe do a calendar, which leads me to ask you about the EAC of Lehigh Valley. Have you heard anything?

**Chad Heimbecker**

No.

**Jennifer Helton**

Not to put you on the spot.

**Chad Heimbecker**

No, from Allentown.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Nothing same.

**Chad Heimbecker**

The last thing I got was an email from them a month ago where they were requesting letters of appreciation being sent to Allentown City Council for adopting a new sustainability ordinance. So, they're making some progress over there, but there was nothing specific to the efforts from the local regional EAC's to have a consolidated information sharing warehouse, which again, would be so beneficial for all of us to know things are going on.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Maybe that's your wheel. Because they seem to be eager, but then they seem to find, you know, they seem to have pickups of how to make this work, yeah? Because, remember, they were talking about a platform, and then everything just sort of stopped.

**Chad Heimbecker**

Let me email back to my contact.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

That's your wheelhouse and how to make it easier. Because it is, would be great to know what all the different EAC in Northampton County are doing in Lehigh County, and you can coordinate with that as well. But I was excited for that, and then it just sort of, I don't think they know how to do it, to get all the different.

**Chad Heimbecker**

I think it hit a stop, yeah, at some point, yes, just oh, we have to pay for this. How are we going to do that?

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

And it's, it's a shame, because it was a great idea.

**Chad Heimbecker**

So, we'll see. I'll check in with them, and I'll give an update on that. That'd be great.

**Jennifer Helton**

Carol, can we add that to the agenda for next? Our next meeting February?

**Carol Schneider**

And that was the Lehigh Valley?

**Chad Heimbecker**

Lehigh Valley EAC collaboration.

**Jennifer Helton**

Chad will be giving us an update, hopefully.

**Chad Heimbecker**

With the Allentown EAC in there.

**Allan Johnson**

Yeah, I hope we keep the LVPC Climate Action Plan thing on the goals for 2025.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Yes.

**Jennifer Helton**

It's up top. I will get it moved down as well, so I see it up top. Any updates, Allan?

**Allan Johnson**

Yes, there they announced their first public meeting for the next phase of the Climate Action Plan. It's going to be on January the 22nd 8:30 in the morning, and it's going to be at the new offices there in Allentown.

**Jennifer Helton**

Great. Will you be attending?

**Allan Johnson**

Yeah, I'm gonna go.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Okay, wonderful.

**Chad Heimbecker**

We'll have an update on that then?

**Jennifer Helton**

Yeah, we'll have another update, Carol. Thank you.

**Chad Heimbecker**

Oh, and Allan, I wanted to thank you for that methane drone article that was very intriguing, new use of that technology, and especially with all these drones, everybody's seen flying all over the place. Maybe they're out there checking the landfill.

**Russell Sutton**

We already had one crash on the Landfill.

**Allan Johnson**

You know, controlling the methane emissions from the landfill is a very popular thing because they're doing it all over and they got companies that are trying to develop technology to help do it.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Did you ever see that methane plane go off? Did you actually see it? It looks like a volcano.

**Allan Johnson**

It looks like, I think that the landfill gas, you know, contains a lot of junk in addition to methane, they did at one time. So, I think they're taking the methane out and they're burning the rest of it. They're supposed to burn the rest of it in some kind of a container furnace that burns up all the bad stuff, and that might be the exhaust from that furnace.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

All I know is when that thing goes off, Allan you, you instantly think that the landfill caught on fire, which it is so big.

**Allan Johnson**

Talk to the Pennsylvania Department of whoever controls the landfill business, because they were on top of this thing. In fact, in a letter I told I mentioned this several times in a letter that they sent to our council, they said that they won't. They won't allow opening of the new phase that at the garbage dump wants to open until they're satisfied with the project to take care of the landfill gas, which, and this is part of it. So, what's up in the council? What happened?

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

They came and presented.

**Allan Johnson**

Did the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Control or something, that they're giving permission, or are they still experimenting? That might be an ongoing thing for the rest of the rest of the time that the landfill operates.

**Jennifer Helton**

Let me just throw out there. The landfill meeting is next week, is it this week? My apologies. Thursday at two here, it may be worth if someone has the available time.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

That'd be great. I'm looking at Allan.

**Allan Johnson**

I don't go to any night meetings.

**Laura Ray**

It's in the daytime.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

The landfill meeting. Do you know what I'm talking about the quarterly landfill meetings, right? Are they monthly?

**Allan Johnson**

Well, they had it here.

**Jennifer Helton**

Quarterly. Yeah, they are. There's one this week.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Thursday, and two.

**Allan Johnson**

Oh, at the landfill?

**Jennifer Helton**

Here, I believe it's here.

**Allan Johnson**

Here. Well....

**Jennifer Helton**

January 16th.

**Allan Johnson**

What do you want me to do? Question, that flame thing?

**Russell Sutton**

Well, it looks like napalm, yeah, so I don't know how much it goes off every three to five minutes.

**Allan Johnson**

Well, you know what? We have a guy who we pay to know all about the landfill. Why don't you council people, tell him to find out what the story is with that plume and then report on it.

**Laura Ray**

We need some additional environmental specialists to help with that topic.

**Allan Johnson**

Well, I don't think he has to be an environmental specialist. All he has to do is ask him what's going on and report to Council at the meeting. I think, I don't know how often he reports to council.

**Russell Sutton**

Because the people that live along Applebutter Road and south there are scared to death, of this thing, because it also, I mean, we can see it from Steel City. It lights the sky up. It's not like a little flame it's 300 feet high. So, it's not a little thing,

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

If we're, if we're very interested in it, I'm sure we can ask Cathy, who the name of the company, because I do remember them coming to present? They presented at a council meeting. I don't know how long ago it was now, explaining what it is, how it works, you know, but once, when they explain versus what you see, it's like, yikes.

**Russell Sutton**

There are two different things.

**Allan Johnson**

Just in the last packet they talked about that they want to the rain water, storm water runoff from their facility. They want to divert that into that little creek that goes underneath the road and goes down to Saucon, correct, and in there, I think they gave a pretty good explanation of what they're doing. And I also remember reading in council minutes, or council something or other, where they explain the whole thing in documentation that they sent to council. So how long ago that was? But I remember that they did it. That's how I know about it. I read it.

**Jennifer Helton**

I mean, I think at this point, it's a point that we should understand, and I think it's just a matter of how it affects the environment, and so it is an issue, and maybe, you know, we can work on a letter to present to council to get more information so that there's a better understanding of that flame and what's in the air as it's burning off.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

That or again, it doesn't matter to me, or re invite the company come present to us of what this thing does and what it's supposed to do.

**Russell Sutton**

And I asked the engineer, I said, when you burn CO2 methane, you release CO2, which is a greenhouse gas, so it's counter to what you're trying to do. And he kind of him and hall about that, oh, when the engineer was here, I asked him, what happens when you burn methane and you release CO2 gas, which is a climate, anti-climate gas, which he admitted to, not voluntarily, but that's the byproduct of burning methane.

**Jennifer Helton**

Laura, how did we go about having come?

**Russell Sutton**

The pipeline, right? But something's flyable.

**Allan Johnson**

Well, whenever they're burning, I don't know. I don't know if they're going to tell you. The only people that they're going to listen to is Council. If Council demands it and Council asks some specific questions they have to answer.

**Jennifer Helton**

Laura Ray, would it be feasible to see if they would come and talk?

**Allan Johnson**

Do we all want to get together and write down a list of specific questions for council to ask. We can do that.

**Jennifer Helton**

Allan, if I could, Laura, would it be feasible to see if they would come and have a discussion here with the EAC to discuss that, even though they did it at the town council some time ago?

**Laura Ray**

We could. I don't know that we can make them.

**Jennifer Helton**

No, not make but ask.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

I'll take that responsibility. I'll ask Cathy.

**Laura Ray**

I don't know if they will come back to council ever again.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

I will ask, I will take that responsibility. I will ask Cathy Gorman, or I'll look back.

**Carol Schneider**

That would be the liaison.

**Laura Ray**

I'll ask.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Who is the liaison on the EAC?

**Jennifer Helton**

Laura.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Even on the EAC? Laura, you'll take that task. Okay.

**Jennifer Helton**

Great. Good discussion. Any other discussions?

**Chad Heimbecker**

Since we're cleaning this up, are we going to put the electronic recycling event down in 2025 again.

**Jennifer Helton**

Oh, I don't know that's a discussion that's on our agenda. If we're doing the recycling.

**Chad Heimbecker**

I'm a little ahead.

**Jennifer Helton**

Just a little, any other items discussions. I mean, we'll continue.

**Chad Heimbecker**

I really hope we can do a handful of these things, at least in the community events this year.

**D. EAC Network Conference 2025 (WeConservePA - 2023 EAC Network Conference was held virtually on Saturday, February 25 from 9 am – 3:30 pm) JH**

**Jennifer Helton**

I'll get it categorized. We'll put it in, you know, break down, and then some kind of calendar. So, great point there any other discussion on that? The next one is, we have the EAC Network Conference. It is virtual in September. Not September, Saturday, February 29 from 9:00 to 3:30 Are there any interested parties?

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

I am interested. If I recall we can pay and register. I think we actually already have membership, right? So, you just need to register, then it's available to you, like you don't have to be there at that time, like you can go back and look, because I remember last year going back and looking at the different topics.

**Carol Schneider**

As far as the EAC membership for WeConservePA, that has not been done. I needed to wait to see who was the Chair. I need the contact information to put in there, so I'll be doing that tomorrow. But as far as the Network Conference, I don't have enough information. I was on their site today and they don't have anything posted. Last year, I got all the information ahead of time (interest, emails, breakout sessions etc.) and forward it all to you.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Correct, and then we had access for a year. We have access for a year to those different topics.

**Jennifer Helton**

Okay, so we can attend, right? Watch it on demand.

**Chad Heimbecker**

Well, I am interested in attending. I don't know if you need a motion to request funding to purchase this registration.

**Jennifer Helton**

Well, my question would be, we're signing up for membership. Does that give us a discount? Because I think last year there was a deal of \$45 if we did it early or something.

**Carol Schneider**

It was an early entry fee. If I know ahead of time who's interested, that helps too.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

I'm interested.

**Jennifer Helton**

Ok, Kathy, Russ, I'm interested. Chad, are you interested too?

**Carol Schneider**

I looked this morning and I didn't see anything posted.

**Jennifer Helton**

No, no, that's a different one.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Yeah, that was an online one.

**Chad Heimbecker**

It was on a Saturday last year.

**Jennifer Helton**

It's the same.

**Chad Heimbecker**

It was four sessions that were about an hour and a half each.

**Russell Sutton**

It was 9:00 to 3:30.

**Chad Heimbecker**

It was actually had eight sessions, so you couldn't attend all of them, which is why it was nice to be able to go back and look.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Yes, we are able to go back, go back and look.

**Laura Ray**

Well, we went to an in person one in the fall.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Yes, right?

**Jennifer Helton**

I know I got an email that had the information their website. I will tell you; I know one of the key individuals took another job and left. It looks like it's not on their website, but I did get an email. So, at this point, it looks like Allan, are you interested what doing the EAC from WeConserve?

**Chad Heimbecker**

It's an online series of webinars.

**Allan Johnson**

No, I don't think so.

**Jennifer Helton**

Okay.

**Allan Johnson**

Does anybody else want to do it?

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Yeah, we're going to do it.

**Jennifer Helton**

We're trying to figure out funding for Carol.

**Allan Johnson**

Oh, no, I don't want to.

**Jennifer Helton**

Make it the five.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

It's the 25th.

**Laura Ray**

That's a Tuesday.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Saturday, February 25th?

**Jennifer Helton**

February 25th?

**Chad Heimbecker**

Saturday is the 22nd.

**Laura Ray**

That's why I'm wondering this. It said it was held virtually on Saturday, like, this is 2020 date.

**Jennifer Helton**

Okay, we're going to have to confirm that.

**Laura Ray**

Yeah, it would probably be on a Saturday.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

I've always thought of doing a national lights out. I still remember the Christmas tree lights, which was fascinating to me. Remember the Christmas tree lights? Or did you not see that one, how much she got, and how much money they got back and all the broken lights and all that stuff, the batteries, yeah, and the light noise was fascinating, yeah, yeah. But all of all that they were so on, it was unbelievable with



the numbers that they got. Jennifer, you'll get back to me with the date, the correct date and that okay. And then it's you. Chad, Kathy, Russ and Laura?

**Jennifer Helton**

Correct.

**Carol Schneider**

If you can get more information. I can send it out to the group.

**Jennifer Helton**

Sorry about that.

**Carol Schneider**

I checked this morning; I couldn't find anything on it.

**Chad Heimbecker**

The star link satellites.

**Jennifer Helton**

We have another conversation going on? You want to sorry? Update everybody?

**Chad Heimbecker**

Sorry. No, just the light pollution topic from last year was of interest.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

It was fascinating.

**Chad Heimbecker**

If there's any way for us to maybe move towards suggesting that on a state level, or supporting that idea, or something like that, would be just, I would get behind that.

**Jennifer Helton**

I think the nice thing too is we can grow our projects from attending some of those meetings. So be it.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

That was fascinating, it really was.

**Laura Ray**

We could look at our own regulations. I know Janine was very interested in that, and I thought we had stronger regs on or more about lighting, and I didn't find a whole lot when I was digging through our code.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

The first thing I thought about for light noise was Easton Road. And I know we don't know we don't it's Bethlehem Township on the left side. I know that, but those lights all night long, and those warehouses and that UGI facility, you. It's, it's day like, 24 hours a day through there.

**Jennifer Helton**

I will follow up and get the correct information. Sorry about.

**Chad Heimbecker**

The date and cost for how many five attendees? Yeah, okay, yeah.

**Jennifer Helton**

And then we have no developer items.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Yeah, I do have a question. Under new business, if you don't mind, we're going to do an Open Space Subcommittee in the review of the open space planning criteria. If you go on the EAC website and you go under open space, then you go under, there's an invasive species, whole thing in there, and it's fascinating, and it's also old. I don't know that we need to update it, but I do think it's worth having the new members and the existing members review it. I didn't even know it was there. Now, I know it inside now, you know, for other communities. But the point is it's there, and it's about endangered species here in Lower Saucon Township, and it's really well written. I don't know if I we bring it back to light, or, you know, bring it back to where do you find to the new members, Lower Saucon Township, EAC forms and documents, open space. I mean, it's really kind of hidden. And then endangered species.

**Chad Heimbecker**

Endangered or invasive?

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Sorry, not invasive, endangered. It's in there. It's was written in 2000 I think the natural resource inventory. Natural resource inventory. It's so hidden in there, but it's really well written. There's a lot of information on there. That's where you have the town statement.

**Jennifer Helton**

And I think you bring up a good point Cathy, that any new member should be given that to read, to understand, that one was done quite some time ago. It was even before the open space. I think it was like 2004 so it was a third party. The gentleman spoke last month about it. He was the zoning manager at the time. So, it does have really good history to it, and so I think that would be a great welcome package to new members, and we can work on that.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

That and the open space, just so people know what it is.

**Jennifer Helton**

No, totally. Did you read it Kathy?

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

I did.

**Allan Johnson**

Is it the whole Township, particular or a particular part?

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

No, the whole Township.

**Carol Schneider**

I can send a link directly to them.

**Jennifer Helton**

It was done in 2000 and its natural resource inventory, and it basically was Ann Rhodes, was a PhD, and a Timothy Block, that worked on it but basically talks about how it breaks down the township into, like Black River, Saucon Creek, Lehigh Valley. There's like five regions that break down the area. But it's worth reading, and it is on the website, but if you want Carol, maybe make a copy of this?

**Jennifer Helton**

Yeah, that'd be great.

**Russell Sutton**

That'd be great

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Because it's hidden in there, but it's really, it's a very interesting it is very interesting.

**Chad Heimbecker**

Well, I have something to just add really quick. Speaking of invasive species. They talked about this in the webinar for last week. Penn State, the master watershed program that they have, they are having an invasive species movie night at the Emmaus theater. Thursday, January 23 Yes, some seeing the unseen, the impacts of aquatic invasive species in Lake Erie.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

It's a movie night.

**Chad Heimbecker**

Movie Night.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Invasive species?

**Chad Heimbecker**

Thursday, January 23 at 6:30 so, if you have nothing else to do, go get some free popcorn.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

That's a great idea, though.

**Jennifer Helton**

That is great. And then any other updates or reports?

### **III. DEVELOPER ITEMS**

### **IV. UPDATES/REPORTS**

### **V. OLD/MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

#### **A. Electronic Recycling Event for 2025**

**Jennifer Helton**

And then under old miscellaneous business, we have our electronic recycling event in the past have we done that annually?

**Laura Ray**

Sometimes?

**Jennifer Helton**

Do we want to do it?

**Laura Ray**

There's not really a pattern.

**Chad Heimbecker**

Can we be honest, it's a big cost on a line item for the budget.

**Laura Ray**

We do get it, but it is also for the MS4, which is a requirement, and that meets some of the needs. So, there's some additional information that's not always been apparent. Yes, it's expensive, but we do get reimbursed by Northampton County, so it's not as big as that line item was.

**Chad Heimbecker**

Does that interfere if you toggle the years, does it have to be done within a certain time frame?

**Jennifer Helton**

I don't know. I don't know enough about MS4, which is a federally run program that all municipalities must meet. And I don't know, Carol, you do know?

**Laura Ray**

We get about \$2,000 back, I think.

**Carol Schneider**

I do not. I do know that we have done it for three years in a row.

**Allan Johnson**

I think MS4 applies to Municipal Storm Sewer Systems.

**Jennifer Helton**

Yes, but this gets applied to it. I even confirmed with Cathy on that.

**Allan Johnson**

It's a type of a storm sewer system where you have tunnels under the ground, pipes, those drain things on the streets, and we have that on part of the township, but east of Hellertown, we don't have that so I know that they had, they tasked our engineering company to come up with some solutions to satisfy the federal government's requirements. Which they did, and part of it was they were supposed to do some work. And I don't know that they ever did the work. They were going to do some kind of work over there, east of the golf course, where the Silver Creek comes down, or, I guess the Silver Creek, whether or not they ever spent the money or did it, I don't know.

**Jennifer Helton**

Okay, so back to if I may interject, Chad, can we stay focused? Do we want to do the recycling again this year, or do we have concerns and we'll wait until next month after we can address then if it has to be annual or biannual?

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

I have a couple questions.

**Chad Heimbecker**

We should do it. I support it completely. I think it's great. It's just the bottom line on the budget, for me, stands out as our largest expense. So, I think we should just talk about it a little bit if there's alternating years, so that we have better turnout or more bang for the buck on it, so to speak. And then I was just going to ask, you know, when you had your tire event, was there any way to put them on the same day? Or do we need to keep them separate?

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

I was asked to keep those separate so at the time, because of traffic. How much did the recycling event cost? How much did the township have to pay?

**Carol Schneider**

It was \$5000 some dollars, but we were reimbursed \$3,000 by Northampton County.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

I think you were a negative \$2,000 at the end of the day, but that's not and it was well attended.

**Chad Heimbecker**

It was just the largest item on the budget.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Yeah.

**Russell Sutton**

But the point is, what do you do with that stuff?

**Carol Schneider**

There's always the possibility of sharing it with another municipality or Borough too, I mean, and then you can host things on the same day, so that you have all the same volunteers to help and do other things. You know, there's always that possibility too.

**Jennifer Helton**

Carol was talking and mentioning that we could always host with the Borough or another Township, so that, you know, we're splitting the cost, and we can, you know, make it a bigger event, right? So, we can definitely, you know, speak to Hellertown, because I know they have MS4 requirements that they have to do as well.

**Carol Schneider**

The Adopt-A-Road also gets included with the MS4. Yes, that's correct. All that information that I calculate from adopt a road that all goes toward MS4.

**Chad Heimbecker**

Yeah, I'd like to, I need to learn more about that myself, but I totally support doing it. I think if we can expand it and get more bang for the buck, that's what I would rally behind.

**Carol Schneider**

The only downfall with sharing it, we would get less money from the county, you have to keep track, right? Yes, you absolutely have to keep track.

**Jennifer Helton**

Yeah.

**Russell Sutton**

Lower Saucon's tires, right?

**Chad Heimbecker**

It would still be in the fall though, right?

**Jennifer Helton**

That's the discussion we can have.

**Russell Sutton**

In Fall sometime?

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Yeah, fall, yes. Absolutely.

**Chad Heimbecker**

We have some time.

**Jennifer Helton**

Do you know who we could find out more information about how it pertaining to the MS4? Is that Cathy or Roger?

**Carol Schneider**

Hanover Engineering.

**Jennifer Helton**

Hanover Engineering, ok.

**Chad Heimbecker**

We've had topics for our own educational purposes here as a committee, we've talked about having a lot of different speakers come in. Would it be something to talk about how all of our programs interrelate and benefit and the costs associated with them and everything like this MS4?

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Absolutely, I think that's a great idea. I second that idea.

**Jennifer Helton**

We have a motion on the floor.

**Chad Heimbecker**

It says it here on B doesn't write educational ideas for residents, I guess.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Can I just back up, just for a second? Excuse me. So, it kind of popped in my head, although I don't know that you get reimbursement. But what about the I know I felt like I saw like a driving the electronics, right? And, like, simultaneously, like a paint, you know, people trying to wear their paints. I don't know if you get reimbursed for that? I doubt it.

**Chad Heimbecker**

If they're dry. They get taken.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

If you know that?

**Russell Sutton**

It's considered hazardous waste.

**Chad Heimbecker**

If they're liquid, then you have to drop them off at the hazardous waste site.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

It's a thought, right?

**Laura Ray**

Because you can take paint, latex paint, because it's not hazardous.

**Russell Sutton**

Yeah, but the oil bases.

**Laura Ray**

Yeah, stuff like, that's better run for the Northampton County hazardous waste program, which is awesome and excellent. They'll take everything.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

But then we need to promote that as well.

**Laura Ray**

Yeah.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

It was just a thought.

**Laura Ray**

Because when you start getting your hazardous stuff, who knows what people are going to bring, we wouldn't want to be doing that.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Yeah, good point.

**Laura Ray**

They tarp down the whole area that's a very well-run program.

**Carol Schneider**

Okay, good, so the electronics' recycling, bring that back next month?

**Chad Heimbecker**

We need to pick a date, yeah, eventually.

**Laura Ray**

Provider, and see who is available.

**Carol Schneider**

I did talk with Clean Earth this morning, and they currently have the fall wide open right now.

**Jennifer Helton**

Are the fees the same? Do you know? Did they tell you?

**Carol Schneider**

She didn't give me a listing of the prices, so I don't have that information yet, but she did say that the fall, they were wide open, and she'll get me the fees as soon as possible, so I should have them next month.

**Jennifer Helton**

That would be good. I'm glad, that would be helpful. And then educational ideas, I think MS4 is a little bit much for residents, but for us.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Much needed for us.

**Jennifer Helton**

Would we look at Hanover? Laura?

**Laura Ray**

Yeah.

**Jennifer Helton**

Okay. How do we contact them, or what's the procedure?

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**  
Can Brian do that?

**Laura Ray**  
We can ask Brian.

**Jennifer Helton**  
Okay.

**Allan Johnson**  
I'm sure he understands the MS4 thing.

**B. Educational Ideas for Residents (MS4, Rain Gardens, Rain Barrels)**

**Jennifer Helton**  
I think if we look at our list, we got a lot of stuff going on.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**  
The one thing I would like to caution Chad and Russ, we tried rain barrels and we tried composting, and it just wasn't well attended.

**Jennifer Helton**  
Composting was.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**  
Just an FYI, they only had like, 10 or 12 remember?

**Jennifer Helton**  
They were happy with it.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**  
They were happy.

**Laura Ray**  
We could wait on that one again.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**  
It's just difficult, because you put all this stuff out, and then sometimes you have a poor response.

**Laura Ray**  
We have these other things on our list, anyway, bat houses, or, yeah, even bird houses.

**Jennifer Helton**  
Like something fun.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**  
Maybe for the little ones. Did you see that the Monarch was is on the endangered species list, and that we need to plant more milkweed? So, you know that might be especially for the little ones, something that's more interactive.

**Russell Sutton**  
Butterfly plants, we have no butterflies.

**Jennifer Helton**  
And another thought with that is we could see if the library is interested, and that's a great open space. And I was involved in a program in North Carolina, and they literally released but the monarchs on that



given day, and you know, it was, it was huge. The kids loved it, and they came, and they were kind of packaged, and then, you they were alive, and they released them.

**Russell Sutton**

Actually, my brother-in-law Dennis Scholl had a business that he released them for weddings. He's quite an expert, with Monarch's. So, if we need someone who's an expert, I can ask him.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

That would be great, awesome.

**Jennifer Helton**

If we're teaming up with the library, it's very kid oriented, that may be something to think about.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

The other thing just to segue, remember when Durham EAC asked us to work together, you know? That might be nice to bring something together.

**Jennifer Helton**

That's true.

**Allan Johnson**

I read an article about the monarch someplace, and there's only a specific type of what's the name of that plant?

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Milkweed.

**Allan Johnson**

Milkweed. I have a whole field full of milkweed, and I have never seen a monarch.

**Jennifer Helton**

Is yours a big thick stock?

**Allan Johnson**

The stocks aren't that big.

**Jennifer Helton**

I have them in my yard, and I had a ton of monarchs because of that. I think it's just getting the right milkweed.

**Russell Sutton**

It's a specific kind. You have to find out which one it is.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Well, Russ's brother-in-law is going to tell us.

**Russell Sutton**

I could find that out.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

That'd be great to have for March or April. You can get the presentation ready for May.

**Russell Sutton**

I know where they grow. They grow right along Freemansburg Road, where you go down to the Main Street, where the ball field, where they're putting an amphitheater in, they go right in that embankment. There's a whole bunch of them right there.

**Jennifer Helton**

Okay, good. That's wonderful. And then any other discussion on that?

**Allan Johnson**

You mentioned rain gardens, is it just that topic didn't come up yet?

**Jennifer Helton**

It's just those were generative thought items, and when we got on the monarch.

**Allan Johnson**

I think that's a good idea to learn more about rain gardens. I think rain gardens are going to be one of the main things that Lehigh Valley Planning Commission is going to recommend as part of their climate reduction program. And I read an article some place on rain gardens. It might have been a Penn State thing, or maybe it was at the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission thing to make them right. It's very complicated. You almost need an engineer, either an engineer who knows about rain gardens, or one of those landscaping firms that knows about rain gardens, because if you don't make it right, it doesn't work. So, it's pretty complicated, like I remember Saucon Creek Watershed Association was talking about doing a rain garden with the with the Saucon Valley. Educational, whatever. Saucon high school, yes, there's a rain garden there. Yes, and it didn't go anywhere, I think because somebody read up on it and found out that it was a big of a project for their name.

**Jennifer Helton**

Well, that would be a good thing with the Penn State Extension. Well, Northampton, that person resides in that area, in that office, she could come and talk to us about rain gardens, right?

**Allan Johnson**

Yeah. She could probably refer us to a whole bunch of stuff to read.

**Jennifer Helton**

We can definitely, I can reach out, her name is Shannon, so I'll reach out to her. I can't remember her last name off the top of my head.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Would it be beneficial to invite Saucon Valley Watershed to come to an EAC meeting and have the two meetings the two groups talk about what they do. Or you think they're just two separate?

**Jennifer Helton**

What two groups?

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Saucon Valley Watershed and us the EAC. Have the two groups, if the Saucon Valley Watershed is going to host an event, have the EAC kind of be involved again? Just a thought. I mean, definitely can. Different groups of people, but they have common interests.

**Jennifer Helton**

Absolutely, we can do that.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

You're looking at me.

**Jennifer Helton**

Well, you got to talking.

**Allan Johnson**

About 20% of the group already.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Okay.

**Jennifer Helton**

No, it's great up here because, I mean, they are trying to expand membership, and that's when, you know, we have the watershed master watershed stewards, you know, graduate and help grow the association, which, in turn, wants to work together with Lower Saucon.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

You have municipalities, Winfield Clark and Janine are not here. You have two new members coming, you know. I don't think we can assume people, know.

**Jennifer Helton**

Oh, I agree. Yeah, you're absolutely right. That's a good point.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Just a thought.

**Jennifer Helton**

Yeah, absolutely good. I agree. All right. Anything else on this topic?

**Allan Johnson**

Kathy, are you thinking that just to interact with Saucon Valley, Saucon Creek Watershed Association, or to learn more because there's a larger overall group of Watershed Association, what are they called?

**Jennifer Helton**

Lehigh Valley, I mean, the watershed.

**Russell Sutton**

Cooks Creek?

**Allan Johnson**

Watershed Association, something like that.

**Jennifer Helton**

Yeah.

**Allan Johnson**

About the overall you know.

**Jennifer Helton**

Cooks Creek is in Bucks County.

**Russell Sutton**

Because we have the Cooks Creek Watershed thing too.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

We did.

**Jennifer Helton**

Is in Lower Saucon and Cooks is in Bucks County. That's right, Springtown.

**Allan Johnson**

Little Lehigh, and Bushkill. So, every one of these creeks have a group that's a watershed. They're all together in this big association. They all work together.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

I think both. I think to one, to educate the EAC of what a watershed is and what a watershed does, what do you do? And what's the purpose, yes and yes to meet, to have the two groups, so you're both in Lower Saucon Township, so I understand, you know, maybe do a little bit of both. Maybe bring the Watershed Association Lehigh Valley to come speak to us about what it what's the goal, what is the purpose. And then, if there's an event for the Saucon Valley watershed, you get the two groups together so they can meet each other.

**Allan Johnson**

Well, you could talk to Rebecca about that.

**Jennifer Helton**

It's the watershed coalition of the Lehigh Valley. Coalition?

**Chad Heimbecker**

Consortium.

**Jennifer Helton**

Any other discussion, otherwise, we'll move on.

**VI. TOWNSHIP CORRESPONDENCE**

**A. NPDES PAG-03 Application Package - Resource Env. Mgmt - Aria Energy East.**

**Jennifer Helton**

On to the township correspondence, which is talking about Saucon Creek. This was in the last township meeting. It is the new energy plant, and they want to have storm water runoff into the Saucon creek that Allan was talking about, and this is their findings. Initially came as a permit, or at least notification that their intent was to do this. I don't know if you all were able to.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

It was so complicated, you know, kind of like scrolling, trying to get a synopsis, and I didn't see one.

**Jennifer Helton**

It's very difficult. I mean, I started, I was telling somebody I was doing just keyword searching, because it was basically, I mean, it's talking about, you know, if they have a spill, they have a retention pond there, and printed out some of the pictures, but they have a retention pond and what would happen if they did a spill? I mean, it was a lot of discussion you on how they would call 911.

**Russell Sutton**

If they have spillways.

**Jennifer Helton**

It was more an FYI. We're going to see if I could get some help on that.

**Allan Johnson**

It's a national pollution discharge environmental system. It's a federal government requirement that they do this whenever they want to dump anything into a regular stream, and that's the application to the federal government.

**Jennifer Helton**

All right, but there's some studies that were done.

**Allan Johnson**

I wanted to mention this. You see how at the end it says Aria Energy East. That's the name of the corporation that's putting that plume up in the air. Yes, I'm thinking that maybe the landfill says we don't even do with that. That's a different company. They do it, you know, so our land, the guy that we paid to go to the landfill and do whatever he does up there, search around, make sure they're doing things right, and the meeting that they had, I don't think they're going to say anything about that. Just going to say that's not our entity. Yeah, I agree we don't have any control over that. Now, the council might have some control over because it's happening in our township, but I think that the Bethlehem Landfill people, are just going to say, that's not part of our Bethlehem Corporation, it's somebody else.

**Laura Ray**

I agree on that. It's a separate set of people. I just wanted to have this sent over, because we did have this in our council packet. When we got our council packet, we only had this cover letter saying enclosed as a copy of a Notice of Intent. And then we had nothing. We only had one piece of paper. And so, all weekend, I was bugging about, you know, like, well, what is this talking about? And then two hours before council meeting, we got the 216-page document, and 206 whatever it is, a lot. 260 pages, and it's, you know, we obviously could not read it, and it's complicated. It is not, I'm still not sure what to make of it, either. It's like, this is our intent. We were told we didn't need to take any action.

**Jennifer Helton**

I don't think there's any action. It's an FYI.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Is it an application?

**Laura Ray**

We were told that it's not a permit? But it sure seems like it is to me.

**Jennifer Helton**

The letter came as an intent, but if you look at every of the supporting document, it's an application,

**Laura Ray**

That's why it didn't make sense, where we were told it's not a permit to discharge, it's just like an FYI notification to us. So, thinking we need to respond in some way, I didn't know if anybody here would have any thoughts on this.

**Jennifer Helton**

If I could interrupt, Allan has stepped down for a brief moment, but he has something to say about that.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Although I haven't, I have to say, it does say, intends to submit a notice of intent to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. So, if this is going to them, then, we would be following whatever the DEP whatever recommendations that they have.

**Laura Ray**

But there was a 30-day window for some comments.

**Jennifer Helton**

So, one thing while we wait for Allan, if I could, which is additional to this, do you know that they also activated their PFASs filter, which attending one of the meetings, I was aware that was going to go live. It was said that they have no plans on having it go live, but I don't know if there's any concerns with that, but that was that is a live system now.

**Russell Sutton**

Who gets reports for that?

**Jennifer Helton**

I don't know. And maybe that's something we could have Laura bring up?

**Russell Sutton**

Because I know Bethlehem would not expose their results.

**Laura Ray**

And the PFASs, so that is part of the link, I don't know if it's going to be coming up on reports, because there's tons of reports that come out from them, as I'm sure you know.

**Russell Sutton**

The City of Bethlehem wouldn't share.

**Laura Ray**

Right, now that they have this new filter.

**Jennifer Helton**

Would that be something that we could ask?

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Who is our representative, is that Victoria? For the landfill?

**Laura Ray**

Her and Priscilla.

**Jennifer Helton**

Maybe see if we could just get an update that would be reported?

**Russell Sutton**

Because something like that the township engineer would actually have to look at, because really technical.

**Jennifer Helton**

Correct, but at least we know that we're going to get a report if we needed to. So, Allan.

**Allan Johnson**

What I wanted to say was it really irritates me, the tiny little stream that they want to dump this storm water into. I'm hoping that they have the application, first of all, the storm water is going to go into a detention pond, and then they can control the release from the detention pond into the tiny little trickle of the stream of a tributary to the East Branch of the Lower Saucon. I don't like that. Everybody thinks, well, what the hell? Everything else goes into the little Lower Saucon. No big deal. And then that stream which is a tiny little tributary, flows through land owned by UGI. Now, UGI, they own the land from Applebutter Road all the way down to Easton Road.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Or Ringhoffer.

**Allan Johnson**

So, they built that huge gas plant down there. I don't know if you followed it, but I did before they built that, that whole field there was filled with trees, not huge, not a forest, but trees, shrubs, yeah, all kinds of green stuff was growing there. You probably couldn't even fight your way through it. And that little,

tiny trickle of a stream came through all that, I took pictures of the stream down where it enters East Branch into Saucon. So, what does UGI do? They strip all that vegetation. And I guess they're going to plant grass. And you can see, if you look on Google Earth, a little stream, little black line that comes down through the down through the picture, which is the little string. Now I'm wondering, maybe that'll cause an erosion problem for UGI. They'll have to do something about it.

**Russell Sutton**

There's no vegetation.

**Allan Johnson**

Well, the last time I was there, there was no grass growing. I didn't stop and actually look at the land lately.

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

I don't know how that was ever made legal, because they knocked it all down. And the size of that thing, you can't get to it anyway, the way the roads are made, Ringhoffer Road, you can't get to it on the. It's crazy how that got.

**Allan Johnson**

Not a secret, but proprietary. I don't know if they have a gate though.

**Jennifer Helton**

Any concerns or action at this point?

**Kathy Pichel McGovern**

Whatever the Pennsylvania DEP recommends, we would too.

**Chad Heimbecker**

I'm concerned about discharging industrial storm water into Saucon Creek. That's my concern.

**Jennifer Helton**

I agree. And I think you know, what we could ask is that town council follow up with us and let us continue to be part of the information received on it.

**Chad Heimbecker**

I would like to understand what the water is going to contain. It's in that report. And how long does it have to be held or kept or filtered before it settles, before it's allowed, or if it just rains really hard one day and they're allowed to open the spigot up and the flocculent just keeps pouring out. And right? So that's concern.

**Jennifer Helton**

That's a very big concern. So, I think we need to keep it on our radar. And it's frustrating.

**Russell Sutton**

It ends up in the Lehigh.

**Jennifer Helton**

Any other discussion? We have no one here for public comment. If not, any motion to adjourn.

**VII. PUBLIC COMMENT - None**

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION BY:** Kathy Pichel McGovern moved for adjournment. The time was 7:57 p.m.

**SECOND BY:** Chad Heimbecker, 5-0

Next EAC Meeting: February 11, 2025 @ 6:30 p.m.