

**East Vincent Township**  
**Environmental Advisory Council Meeting**  
**September 13, 2023, 7:00 PM**

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Molly Wagle opened the meeting at 7:03PM. In attendance were Chris Orzechowski, Chris Canale, and Michele Adams. There were 2 guests.

Molly was nominated to vice chair.

Moved: C. Orzechowski      Second: M. Adams      Vote: Unanimous

1. Meeting minutes from August 9, 2023 were shared. There was a motion to approve the minutes.

Moved: M. Adams      Second: C. Orzechowski      Vote: Unanimous

2. Old Business

- A. Northern Chester County Clean Energy Futures

- i. Molly reviewed Chester County grants for the multi-municipal grants (which is what the 4 other townships did), and to qualify, they need to be congruent townships or townships all within 1 school district.
    - ii. Molly reached out to Practical Energy Solutions for a quote for 1 up to 7 townships (remaining townships in OJRSD) to take the plans created for the other townships and update for their respective townships. The plans are focused on the municipal operations.
    - iii. Once quote received, will reach out to other townships for interest.
    - iv. The other 4 townships with the plans explained that the fact that the townships had Clean Energy Resolution helped secure the grant from Chester County. It was something that the townships could point to in order to show that they were serious about the plans and would act to some extent on the plans. Chester County wants to ensure that they money they are providing in the grant for plans will have a long term benefit, and that the plans will not just sit on a shelf somewhere.
    - v. Results of letter to BOS on grant writing
      - Letter sent to the BOS; no feedback at this point in time
      - 2 companies identified for grant writing thus far:
        - a. Hertlein
          - i. Work on a 2 – 3% fee, not to exceed a predetermined amount
        - b. Remington & Vernick Engineers (RVE)

B. Website Update

- i. Site is live; contains native plant list but is missing the garden plan
- ii. **Action Item: Michelle to ask Bob to upload garden plan on website**

C. Community Day

- i. Molly to attend entire event, Michelle to attend partial event
- ii. Table will be focused on showing off the pollinator garden and spreading awareness of the EAC
- iii. For next year, would be nice to have a EnviroScape

D. Ongoing discussion of Zoning Ordinances

- i. All to continue to review ordinances and provide recommendations
- ii. PennFuture has a model ordinance for logistics use zoning ordinance.
  - **Action Item: Molly to share the ordinance and EAC members to review prior to next meeting. EAC members will provide recommendations in next meeting**
- iii. There is a data center going in near Pennhurst.
  - Cooling would likely either be glycol cooling or high electrical draw cooling
  - It's important to understand the fire suppression methodology and containment measures proposed
  - The data center will only be regulated as much as the township decides to regulate it
  - For backup generators, they likely will use diesel; no ordinance to use a percentage of battery or solar
- iv. Water plant is going in near Pennhurst. A current plant is being decommissioned and putting a new plant in. The new plant will be expanding capacity in comparison to the plant being decommissioned.
  - The new plant is to take care of future development. The EAC needs to know what the plan is for the future water need
  - **Action Item: Molly to ask Bob if the EAC can get plans that are coming in to the township so that the EAC can make proper recommendations**

3. New Business

A. Report on Northern Chester County (NCC) EAC's meeting on 8/31

- i. PFAS was a big concern
- ii. Katie Muth spoke about having HOAs allowing solar
- iii. Stormwater management
  - Recommend having enough money in escrow for years and years to remedy issues
- iv. PA has a Green Amendment in the state constitution

B. West Vincent Healthy Yards Program

- i. This program is set up to be a model program for other municipalities to use. If East Vincent wants to create a similar program, we can reach out to West Vincent and they can help us set up a similar application.
    - ii. Molly to dig into application to ensure the intent is not to rate someone's yard
  - C. Bondsville Mill Park
    - i. Great initiative for native plants, community engagement
  - D. Budget
    - i. Budget for 2024 is coming due
    - ii. **Action Item: Molly to share budget document with EAC; EAC members to provide requested budget by October 4<sup>th</sup>.**

4. Open Discussion/Public Comment:

- A. Recommend having a FPR Ordinance
- B. "We're not anti-development, we're for smart development"
- C. Would like if there was a map of wetlands in the township
- D. Stormwater management is a major issue
- E. It was stated in a BOS meeting that the EAC is here to make recommendations to the board
- F. Major concern with all traffic, especially on 724, and increased development will only exacerbate this issue
- G. Discussion on solar
  - i. One member uses Sunnova Energy for solar panels; greatly decreased electricity bill and minimal upfront cost
- H. Recycling would be a good topic to provide education for residents
  - i. Phoenixville borough – ultimate recycling list
- I. Some municipalities have stated new development needs to meet certain criteria (Green Building Silver, LEED, etc.). May be a good consideration for this township.

5. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn.

Moved: C. Orzechowski

Second: M. Adams

Vote: Unanimous