

UPPER NAZARETH TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
MINUTES SEPTEMBER 20, 2021

The first meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman Nathan Pritchard.

Roll Call: Council members present were: Nathan Pritchard, George Hasker, Anton Shannon, Frank Hirst, and Brian Sayago.

Pledge of Allegiance

Having been designated as Chairman by the Board of Supervisors, Mr. Pritchard asked for nominations for additional Council officers.

Mr. Sayago stepped forward as Secretary. Mr. Pritchard moved to accept Mr. Sayago; Mr. Shannon seconded the motion.

Mr. Shannon stepped forward as Vice Chairman. Mr. Hirst moved to accept Mr. Shannon; Mr. Pritchard seconded the motion.

The Council voted to accept Mr. Sayago and Mr. Shannon in their respective capacities. The motion carried by all voting aye. (5-0)

Mr. Prichard reviewed the Ordinance which had created the Council.

Mr. Prichard noted that there were currently five members on the Council, but that there could be as many as seven. The Ordinance recommends that a member of the Township Planning Commission and a member of the Board of Supervisors be part of the Council. Mr. Pritchard also noted that it may be possible to have non-voting associate members.

Mr. Pritchard made a note of the following.

- Members of the Council will receive no compensation.
- The Council has an advisory role. Any recommendations would require approval by the Board.
- The Council does not have a budget. Any contemplated expenses would require approval by the Board.

Mr. Pritchard identified the powers of the EAC as enumerated in SECTION 7 of the Ordinance. The Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) shall have the power to:

- 1) Identify environmental problems and recommend plans and programs to the appropriate agencies for the promotion and conservation of the natural resources and for the protection and improvement of the quality of the environment within Upper Nazareth Township.
- 2) Make recommendations as to the possible use of open land areas within Upper Nazareth Township.
- 3) Promote a community environmental program.
- 4) Keep an index of all open areas, publicly or privately owned, including flood -prone areas, swamps and other unique natural areas, for the purpose of obtaining information on the proper use of those areas.
- 5) Advise the Upper Nazareth Township Planning Commission, Recreation Board, Board of Supervisors, or other relevant appointed bodies within Upper Nazareth Township in the acquisition of both real and personal property by gift, purchase, grant, bequest, easement, devise or lease, in matters dealing with agricultural preservation, open space, and recreation.

Mr. Pritchard noted that at this time, the EAC does not have by-laws. He asked the members of the Council to review the sample by-laws included in the EAC Handbook, A Guide for Pennsylvania's Environmental Advisory Councils published by the Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC).

Mr. Pritchard asked that all the members respond to him with any recommended changes to these sample by-laws.

After revisions and approval by the EAC the by-laws will be sent to the Board of Supervisors for their approval.

The Council held a general discussion of the ways land could be preserved or maintained undeveloped land. These included:

- Purchase
- Purchase of development rights
- State, county, township farmland preservation programs

Mr. Pritchard noted that the Upper Nazareth Township Recreation, parks and Open Space Master Plan (Plan) includes on page 36 a scoring methodology to evaluate proposals. The applicability of this methodology will be evaluated over the coming meetings.

COURTESEY OF THE FLOOR

Mr. Sayago commented that the Plan includes three broad missions for the Council. These are farmland preservation, establishment of parks, and establishment of trails. He suggested that prioritization might be necessary.

Mr. Shannon noted that 50 acres is the minimum size for farmland preservation under most Northampton County programs. Smaller parcels might be considered under a township program.

Mr. Sayago asked if we could develop an inventory of land parcels in the township and if this might be useful in identifying open space opportunities.

Mr. Scott Sylvainus (a Township supervisor present as an observer) suggested we obtain the Traffic Impact study completed a number of years ago. He suggested we might obtain a copy from Sean Dooley of Keystone Engineers.

Mr. Pritchard noted that a map developed for the purpose of farmland preservation may be available from the County.

Mr. Sylvainus stated that parcels identified on the UNT official map might give the Township the right of first refusal on any sale.

Mr. Sayago suggested we have someone from Bushkill township come to our next meeting to discuss how we can benefit from their experience.

OLD BUSINESS

Since this was the first meeting, no old business was applicable.

Prior to adjournment Mr. Pritchard identified the following actions.

All members will review the sample by-laws and submit any suggested changes to Mr. Pritchard by October 11 for discussion at the October 18 EAC meeting.

Mr. Sayago will contact Sean Dooley of Keystone Engineers to obtain the Traffic Impact study. The plan is to have the Study by the next meeting.

Mr. Pritchard will contact Northampton County to obtain any maps developed for the purpose of farmland preservation.

Mr. Pritchard will contact Jason Smith or another representative of Bushkill Township and extend an invitation to attend our next meeting.

The next meeting will be on October 18, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. at the Township building.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Hasker, seconded by Mr. Hirst and approved by the five members.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Sayago Secretary

UPPER NAZARETH TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
MINUTES OCTOBER 18, 2021

The October 2021 meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman Nathan Pritchard.

- 1) Roll Call: Council members present were: Nathan Pritchard, George Hasker, Frank Hirst, and Michelle Martin.
 - a) Brian Sayago and Anton Shannon joined subsequently.
 - b) Also present as a guest was Jason Smith of Bushkill Township. Mr. Smith has been instrumental in implementing Bushkill Township's open space and farmland preservation program.
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) The Council reviewed the appointments of Council officers.
- 4) The Council noted that the term of the members would end on December 31 on the following schedule as appointed by the Board of Supervisors (BOS)
 - a) Nathan Pritchard a three-year term ending December 31, 2023
 - b) George Hasker a three-year term ending December 31, 2023
 - c) Anton Shannon a three-year term ending December 31, 2023
 - d) Frank Hirst a two-year term ending December 31, 2022
 - e) Brian Sayago a two-year term ending December 31, 2022
 - f) Michelle Martin a one-year term ending December 31, 2021
 - g) A second one-year term was not filled.
 - h) The above schedule will be incorporated into the bylaws as an addendum.
- 5) (Re)appointments will be made at each annual BOS annual reorganization meeting.
- 6) Mr. Sayago will forward the Minutes of the September 20, 2021 meeting as amended to Lisa Klem.
- 7) The draft of the By Laws was approved by Mr. Pritchard, Mr. Hasker, Mr. Hirst, Mr. Sayago, Mr. Shannon and Ms. Martin. The By Laws will be forwarded to Lisa Klem for review and feedback including by the solicitor if needed.
- 8) The Council discussed a question regarding requests for legal or other advice that may be desired from time to time. The Council concluded that any such questions will be forwarded to Lisa Klem for her to answer or forward to the appropriate specialist.

COURTESEY OF THE FLOOR

- 9) The Council discussed methodologies to evaluate open space opportunities including requests for farmland preservation.
 - a) These included Table 5-1 Upper Nazareth Township Open Space Criteria scoresheet included in the Upper Nazareth Township Recreation, Parks & Open Space Master Plan November 2020. Also discussed was a Bushkill township's Open Space Criteria Evaluation form and methodology.
 - b) Mr. Smith of Bushkill offered a number on insights based on that township's experience.
 - i) The Evaluation is a useful tool to evaluate properties that appear to not qualify for farmland preservation.
 - ii) Mr. Smith suggested one scoresheet/set of criteria for farmland and one for natural land.
 - c) Mr. Pritchard ask the members to review the scoresheets and bring comments to the next EAC meeting.
- 10) The Council discussed actions that could be taken to eventually bring opportunities for open space in the Township.
 - a) Ms. Martin will contact certain farmers.
 - b) Mr. Pritchard will engage in a conversation with Buzzi Unicem at a meeting already scheduled for other purposes.
 - c) Mr. Sayago will develop a contact with Lehigh Heidelberg Cement.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Pritchard and others had attended the September 30, 2021 meeting of Lehigh Valley Greenways. He reported that there was a very positive response from the Upper Nazareth Township people who attended.

In seeking an inventory of land owners in the Township, the Council had obtained the Transportation Capital Improvements Plan prepared by Keystone Engineering in September 2010. The Plan did not include the information sought. Mr. Sayago will contact Lisa Klem to learn if any notes from the Plan's development are available.

The next meeting will be on November 15, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. at the Township building.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Hasker, seconded by Mr. Hirst and approved by the six members. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Sayago Secretary

UPPER NAZARETH TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
MINUTES NOVEMBER 15, 2021

- 1) The November 2021 meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council was called to order at 6:33 p.m. by Chairman Nathan Pritchard.
- 2) Roll Call
 - a) Council members present were:
 - i) George Hasker, Michelle Martin, Nathan Pritchard, Brian Sayago and Anton Shannon.
 - ii) Frank Hirst was absent.
- 3) Pledge of Allegiance
- 4) All members present voted to approved the October 18 Minutes.
- 5) COURTESY OF THE FLOOR
 - a) No members of the public were present.
- 6) OLD BUSINESS
 - a) The By Laws have been submitted to Township Manager Lisa Klem. The By Laws were then submitted to Township Solicitor Gary Asteak for review. After any recommended changes, they will be submitted to the Board of Supervisors for approval
 - b) Mr. Pritchard met with representatives of Buzzi Unicem. The company was receptive to our interest in preserving open space. Representatives of Buzzi were Keith Williams, Dan Nugent and Radoslav Slavov.
 - c) Ms. Martin met with an owner of a township farm. She will follow up with the farmer's family members in the coming weeks
 - d) Mr. Sayago has not yet contacted Lehigh Hanson.
- 7) NEW BUSINESS
 - a) As a model, the Council discussed Bushkill Township's Open Space Criteria Evaluation form and methodology.
 - b) A number of changes to the criteria were proposed. These are noted on the accompanying draft of the Upper Nazareth Township Open Space Criteria Evaluation form
 - c) Mr. Sayago will modify the Bushkill Township form in accordance with the recommendations of the Council and send the draft as an accompaniment to these Minutes.
 - d) Mr. Pritchard will request approval to use the form from Carrie Reider of Bushkill Township.

- e) Mr. Pritchard will contact the owners of a western township farm currently under consideration for development. Mr. Pritchard will inform the owners of available farmland preservation options.
- 8) The next meeting will be on December 20, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. at the Township building.
- 9) ADJOURNMENT
 - a) Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Hasker, seconded by Mr. Shannon and approved by the five members. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Sayago Secretary

UPPER NAZARETH TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
MINUTES DECEMBER 20, 2021

10) The December 2021 meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council was called to order at 6:33 p.m. by Chairman Nathan Pritchard.

11) Roll Call

- a) Council members present were:
 - i) Nathan Pritchard, Brian Sayago and Anton Shannon.
 - ii) Michelle Martin, George Hasker, and Frank Hirst were absent.
 - iii) The Council lacked a quorum.

12) Pledge of Allegiance

13) Approved the November 15 Minutes was deferred due to the lack of a quorum.

14) COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

- a) No members of the public were present.

15) OLD BUSINESS

- a) The EAC discussed its draft By Laws. It is unclear if By Laws are necessary or required. The PA Environmental Council Handbook contemplates the adoption of By Laws and offers a sample. The draft UNT EAC By Laws were based on this sample. We were informed that the Township solicitor has questioned to necessity of By Laws. Mr. Pritchard offered a number of reasons for the value of By Laws. Mr. Pritchard will contact Jason Smith at Bushkill Township and Rebecca Kennedy at PEC staff to gather additional information on this topic.
- b) Mr. Pritchard obtained permission to use Bushkill Township's Open Space Criteria Evaluation form and methodology.

16) NEW BUSINESS

- a) The EAC plans to conduct a table-top test of the Open Space Criteria Evaluation at the next EAC meeting.
- b) Mr. Sayago discussed the 12/14/21 meeting with Lehigh Hanson Heidelberg in which he and Ms. Mullen participated. The meeting was more fully documented in notes sent to the EAC and included below.
- c) The Council discussed the applicability of the hillside parcel north of the Buzzi quarry as potential Township accessible open space.

17) The next meeting is scheduled for January 17, 2022 (MLK Day) at 6:30 p.m. at the Township building.

18) ADJOURNMENT

- a) Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Shannon, seconded by Mr. Sayago and approved by the three members present. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Sayago Secretary

Lehigh Hanson
Meeting
12/14/21

Kristin Mullen and Brian Sayago met with representatives of Leigh Hanson Heidelberg.

- Krzysztof Burek Plant Manager
- Kathi Donnelly HR Manager and Community Relations Coordinator
- Luis Rodriquez Environmental Department

Heidelberg is very interested in developing an ongoing dialogue with the municipalities, this includes Nazareth Borough, UNT and others. They had been having quarterly meetings with the Borough in the past, but due to turnover at LH these had stopped. They would like to restart. We expressed our commitment to participating.

This meeting was primarily a get acquainted session. But we spoke about a number of things.

Heidelberg is involved with the Borough in that they own the sports fields off Seip Ave. (Called Essroc Field by my soccer playing grandchildren) and the field on S Green St. and the Food Bank Garden on S. Main St.

Heidelberg owns a large plot at the west end of the township near RedCliffe around the white building which they call the white house. This includes a disused quarry and a large field east of the white house. This is significant because while the land around the white house contains rock that is not very attractive for quarrying, the rock immediately east is high quality.

They own Michael School House and said they were interested in selling it. It is not clear how much land would go with it.

They invited us to a future meeting where we could take a tour of the plant.

We told them about our UNT Community Days and invited them to participate. They seemed quite interested.

Lehigh Hanson Heidelberg is part of the German company Heidelberg Cement Group. Heidelberg produces cement and related products in over 60 countries with 57,000 employees working at 3,000 production sites. The company operates 139 cement plants with an annual cement capacity of 176 million tons, more than 1,500 ready-mixed concrete production sites, and over 600 aggregates quarries

They are one of the largest building materials companies in the world, and are included in the German version of the Dow Jones Industrial average – the DAX 30 which includes Adidas, Bayer, BMW, Daimler (Chrysler), Lufthansa, Merck, Siemens, and Volkswagen.

They are currently involved with controversial geopolitical issues in Indonesia and the West Bank.