

**LOWER MACUNGIE TOWNSHIP**  
**Environmental Advisory Council**  
**April 10, 2023 MEETING AGENDA**

**1. Call Meeting to Order, 7:00 p.m.**

**2. Roll Call**

Chairman – Chris Sacchi, Present

Vice-Chairman – Rob Spampinato, Present

Secretary – David Bonette, Present

Member – Jack Breiner, Present

Member – Ellen Iobst, Present

Member - Planning Commission Representative – Vacant

Member – Becky Short, Present

Parks & Recreation Commission Representative – New representative requested

**3. Announcements / Communications**

- 3.1 Guidance regarding EAC chair responsibility for reporting to Township Manager and the Planning and Community Development Director
  - EAC Chair must coordinate with the Township personnel before beginning to plan an event with the Township’s name attached.
- 3.2 Arbor Day Tree Planting event(s): Friday April 28. Typically ~4 PM. Arrange a scout flag ceremony. Other community or educational component? Goal is to plant larger trees in a park or other public space as we have in the past. Stan Cupp indicated that he would prefer to have township staff work on the Dog Park areas at Spring Creek Estates. He suggested we return to the open area at the intersection of Mill Creek Road and Sauerkraut. After consulting with Rob about trees, Stan received the list of trees we want to plant. Waiting for word from Stan.
  - Plans are moving slowly. Chris has reached out to Stan for information on planting near the dog park. Stan indicated that LMT staff may need to work on water issues at the dog park
  - Zach – Still want to put some trees at the dog park but want to be mindful to not create an arboretum. We can split up the trees planted between two locations.
  - Sauerkraut Lane and Mill Creek is also an alternative
  - Tree type and quantity to be determined
- 3.2 Little Lehigh Watershed Stewards – Stream Cleanup April 15: 9am-12pm Lehigh Pkwy East and MLK Jr. Dr., Allentown. Contact Mary Rooney if interested (e-mail with QR code for meetup location sent separately with agenda).
  - Meetup location provided in attached document below; details within
- 3.4 Community Days May 2, 2023 – distribute seeds that Becky has received as donations (do we want to purchase seeds of a selected species in bulk

and package and label them). Literature from Master Gardeners. Becky and Ellen will package the seeds in paper coin envelopes.

- Ellen, Becky, and Dave will pack seeds. Donations from Ernst Conservation Seeds (bulk seeds of a native species, Black-eyed Susan), John Scheepers seed mix, other seed donations.
- Chris will contact Committee members with time slots assigned.

3.5 MS4 and water-related issues – LMT Priority – Zach Graves has reported on MS4 activities.

- Harvest Fields basin – naturalization has begun and mixing in rain garden seed mix.
- Two Vegetated Swales
  - Winding Brook - Broadening out swale and putting down seed mix
  - Area off of Wild Cherry near trailhead; planting shrubs and trees
- Objective is to get higher water quality.
- Area along Spring Creek to be repaired.
- Rain garden to be put in near Lower Macungie Township Park off Quarry Rd.

#### **4. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings**

February 13 and March 13, 2023

Minutes approved without corrections, updates, or abstentions

#### **5. Committee Matters**

5.1 Planning Commission – Maury Robert in place of Planning Commission Rep.

- Sauerkraut Lane and Lower Macungie Rd – engineer to provide comments on novel approach to stormwater management
- Valley at Indian Creek – retention pond proposed to be expanded; maintenance will be on other landowner.

5.2 Parks & Recreation – New representative in future.

5.3 Open Space & Natural Resources

5.4 Trees – Chris Sacchi and Rob Spampinato – Arbor Day location and trees, see above. Big trees as in past.

5.5 Bird Town.

5.6 Community Education & Awareness Including MS4 Activities (Facebook, LMT Township Newsletter, and others)

- Brainstorm ideas for next newsletter

#### **6. Other Business**

6.1.1 Audubon’s Light’s Out program with regard to the Top Golf installation.

- Dave Bonette described potential issues with Top Golf installation
- Philadelphia, New York, and Chicago have enacted programs to turn out lights to aid in migration and other nocturnal activities with great success
- Maury Robert indicates that Top Golf needs a text amendment as a first step in getting approval of the facility. There have been conversations

regarding the lights but “lights out” could be anywhere from 2 – 4 AM depending on schedule.

- EAC to pen communication with Township representatives expressing concerns and requesting further direction.

6.1.2 Strategic Focus: Areas of responsibility.

- 2022-2023 Plans
  - Maury Robert - Master tree list could have more guidance on what to implement and where, e.g., tolerant of wet conditions, parking lot conditions.
- Discuss who will be leading certain focus areas
- Chris to provide direction on how incorporation of new items will continue in subsequent years.

6.1.3 Penn’s Meadow, planting, mowing, weed concerns in other LMT lands/parks/trails/ riparian zones. Ways to address invasive species in township owned properties.

- Lots of Bradford Pear

6.1.4 LMT sustainability; EAC input sent to Bruce Beitler.

- Eventually report from DEP/Penn State will be shared with Township.

6.1.5 Community Days preparation: seed choice, packaging, things to attract residents to our table, e.g., Lantern fly ‘crowns’.

- See above for preparation details

## 8. Adjournment

- Adjournment at 8:25 PM

**Mill Creek and Sauerkraut Tree Planting Location**





# **LITTLE LEHIGH**

Watershed Stewards

Scan the QR Code below to sign up  
and see more information.



Or Email [LLWatershedStewards@gmail.com](mailto:LLWatershedStewards@gmail.com)