

Upper Mount Bethel Township Environmental Advisory Council

Wednesday March 5, 2025

7 PM UMBT Township Building

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM.

2. Roll Call

Present: Dohl DiFebo, Alexandra Dutt, Allison Heinsohn, Judith Henckel, Courtney Gilmour, and BOS liaison David Friedman.

3. Approval of March Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda with the following amendment was made by Allison and seconded by Dohl:

- Addition of "Kittatinny Ridge" to New Business.

4. Approval of February Minutes

Approval of the February minutes was tabled to the next meeting.

5. Courtesy of the Floor / Public Comment

- a. Nick announced a clean-up event on River and Allegheny Roads scheduled for April 26th in celebration of Earth Day.
- b. Ritchard Wilford-Hunt will be organizing a separate clean-up on the weekend prior (April 12-13).

6. Old Business

- **Review for Priority and Future Action**
 - **Wild & Scenic Tributary Study** – Data collection progress noted.
 - **Plan Slate Belt Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan**
 - Public meeting scheduled for March 6 at Pen Argyl Borough.
 - Website: <https://planslatebelt.org>
 - **Stream/Road Crossing Signs** – In collaboration with MJWA. Inventory process ongoing.
 - **GIS Programming Status** – Updates pending.
 - **EAC Website and Outreach**
 - **Slate Belt Rising Heritage and Art Map – Slate Belt Museum**
 - Discussion on if we could help to identify old houses, dairy farms, and historical landmarks.
 - **EAC Bylaws – Review and Adoption**

- Motion to approve bylaws as written made by Dohl, seconded by Courtney. Motion passed.
- **PA 2025 River of the Year: Delaware River**
 - Delaware River received the honor. Details at pawatersheds.org
 - Sojourn dates TBD.
 - Event includes educational components.
 - Registration will be soon and more details will be released.
 - Allison to send out additional information.

7. New Business

• Township Joint Roundtable Meeting

- Chairs and co-chairs of Township committees will attend a non-public session to discuss the Township's 10-year vision and comprehensive plan.
- EAC to brainstorm goals for the upcoming year.

• Kittatinny Ridge

- Jen will be invited to speak at a future meeting.

• Earth Day Event – April 22, 2025 (55th Anniversary)

- Ideas discussed:
 - Promotion of existing clean-up events.
 - Educational booths at the park pavilion.
 - Post-clean-up lunch with a competition for most trash collected by weight.
 - Courtney to explore possibility of Waste Management providing giveaway mini novelty trash cans.
 - Allison to follow up on potential collaboration with Master Watershed Stewards.

• Farm Pond Discussion

- Dohl raised concerns about farm ponds used for fire emergencies, asking if any restoration or sediment removal programs exist to ensure they remain viable.

8. Public Q&A

No additional questions or comments were raised.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:40 PM