

Upper Mount Bethel Township Environmental Advisory Council

Wednesday January 7, 2026

7 PM UMBT Township Building

Call to Order: at 7:04pm

Roll Call: Present: Judith Henckel, Courtney Gilmour, Dohl DiFebo (by phone), new member Kate Cole, and BOS liaison David Friedman, Manager Nick Graziano; Absent: Alexandra Dutt

New member: introduction of Kate and review for her of other members' background.

Election of Officers for 2026: Dohl motioned and Kate seconded to retain our 2025 officers: Chairperson, Judy; Vice Chair, Courtney and Secretary, Alex. Unanimous affirmative voice vote.

Amend January 2026 agenda: Courtney moved to approve the January agenda, Kate seconded; unanimous voice vote to approve.

Approve December 2025 minutes: Judy made the motion to approve the December minutes, Dohl seconded; unanimous yes vote.

Courtesy of the Floor/Public Comment: A suggestion was made to change the meeting time from 7 to 6:30 PM. Discussion ensued for consideration and to make a formal vote at the next meeting. If affirmative, a public notice would then be advertised that remaining 2026 EAC meetings would begin at 6:30 PM.

Old Business

BASD Student Participation: There was a continuation from the last meeting as suggested by Alex, with information from the EAC Network Handbook section on Associate Members that was emailed to members earlier for discussion. EAC would put together a suggested amendment to the UMBT EAC ordinance to include the section on Associate Members. That includes a variety of people including students, even if the school did not sanction a student member representative. A motion by Judy to present to

Supervisors, for review from our Solicitor, for requested inclusion to our ordinance. Motion seconded by Kate, unanimous yes voice vote. Courtney will prepare a submission for our BOS by our Liaison and Manager.

Review of Committee chair/vice chair joint meeting December

15: Meeting began with summaries of each committee's 2025 activities. A main topic of discussion dwelled on trail maps that each committee could take part in, with perhaps one lead. Currently EDC has a trifold flyer for businesses including Minsi Lake. While the Open Space and EAC have done work with nature trails, it seems grant funding may flow more likely through Parks and Recreation Committee. A consensus was that we could be more efficient with awareness of each other's goals and projects.

Wild & Scenic study: Vote on approval has dragged on with a public meeting scheduled for January 29. Our approval letter to BOS was submitted in December.

Municipal building feasibility study: The consultant's report is expected at the BOS January 12 meeting.

EAC draft 2026 environmental education and projects:

Discussion of several ideas for large and small nature events and public community awareness programs to be further explored at the February meeting with interim email messages. Ideas for participation with programs at the park for the country's 250 anniversary events.

New Business

Public Q&A none

Meeting was adjourned at 8:21pm