

**Newtown Borough Environmental Advisory Council**  
January 13, 2024 Minutes  
Council Chambers 23 N. State St. Newtown PA 18940 and Zoom

**Members present:** Glenn Beasley, Katherine Borish, Pat Foster,, Samantha McGraw (Co-chair), Bob Mirales, Gerard O'Malley, Julia Woldorf (Council Liaison) Absent: Tim Markey (Co-chair)

Guests: Gina Tognini (Council Personnel Liaison) , Gary Sondemeyer

1. Review agenda The agenda was reviewed with no changes.
2. EAC Co-chair Appointments: Glenn made the motion and Bob seconded the motion to appoint Samatha McGraw and Tim Markey as co-chairs of the EAC, . All voted in favor.
3. Approve minutes: Pat made the motion and Bob seconded the motion to approve the December 9, 2024 minutes. All voted in favor with Gerard abstaining.
4. Public Comment: Gary Sondermeyer (Middletown Twp) introduced himself and provided background details of his experience in the environmental field. He informed the EAC that there is a citizen group formed to oppose the announced plans for the Bucks County Joint Sewer Authority wastewater treatment facility in Newtown Township. Following a brief discussion the EAC suggested that the Joint Sewer Authority should be invited to the February joint meeting with the Newtown Township EAC. Julia will reach out to the Joint Sewer Authority to arrange a presentation.
5. EAC Priorities - The EAC discussed the status of EAC priorities:
  - a. Official Map: Julia reported that the topic of the Official Map will be discussed at the February Council Work Session on February 5th.
  - b. Sustainable landscaping: Bob reported that he has enlisted a resident Matt Chandler to help on the working group along with Bob and Glenn. Katherine also volunteered to join the working group.
  - c. Investigate creation of a Newtown Borough Climate Action Plan: Tim has scheduled a zoom meeting with Randy Robinson and Peter Buck from the Sustainability Institute at Penn State and will report back.
  - d. Storm Sewer Decals: Additional decals and materials have been purchased and the project will resume in the spring. Pat offered to help with the installation.
6. Other Topics:
  - a. Joint meeting with Newtown Township EAC is scheduled for February 10th
  - b. Recycling Haulers: No update
  - c. Earth Day: The EAC discussed ideas for possible activities to celebrate Arbor day perhaps in collaboration with the Shade Tree Commission. Katherine will contact the Shade Tree Commission.
  - d. Future Outreach Articles: Bob is preparing an article on sustainable landscaping for February.
7. Borough Council Update: Julia updated the EAC on the next steps for the Official Map.

8. New Business: No new business

9. Next Newtown Borough EAC meeting will be Monday, February 10, 2025, 7:00 pm at the Council Chambers and via Zoom.

Pat made the motion to adjourn and Glenn seconded with all agreeing and the meeting was adjourned.

For the Council,

Gerard O'Malley

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