**Environmental Advisory Council**

**Jefferson Hills Borough, Pennsylvania**

**March 22, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

***Meeting Began:*** 6:30 pm

***Roll Call:***

EAC Members in attendance: Rick Moore, Lori Bartrug, Terry Ackman, Kevin Polick, Christina Ripley

Absent members: Alexandra Hakala, Tom Donohue, Joe Lynch

Guests: John Stinner

Note taker: Lori Bartrug

***Organizational discussion***

* The team is set up on Jeffersonhills.net - Terri needs info sent to him.
	+ **NEXT STEP:** Lori to send Terri set-up info & send the entire team a “start” email thread
* Focus discussion topic – Suggested topics to add: New business, Grant opportunities

***Grant Opportunities***

* Beedle Park - John provided an update on a $2M grant from PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), *Park Rehabilitation and Development*, for 3 acres of grass turf to be replaced with field turf (artificial). Poor field conditions are driving the need. John is asking for EAC to create a letter of support.
	+ ***NEXT STEPS:*** John to send an example letter to EAC of what he is requesting. Rick to draft the letter of support from EAC and get the rest of our team’s input.
* Port of Pittsburgh Commission Small Grants Program – Christina brought the opportunity forward. John added that this was submitted, and the vote is in April.

***Marcellus Gas Drilling***

* No update on the proposed Marcellus Gas Well pad in Union Twp. (Sara Well Pad)
* John S. – there are no next steps from council on the EAC letter which was presented at February council meeting

***Abandoned Gas Wells and Mines***

* Terry Ackman has gone through over 100 maps. John added the borough is looking at purchasing an Asset Management Software (right now we have to go through Gateway/fee involved).
	+ **NEXT STEP:** John to follow up to see if we would be able to integrate mine mapping into the asset management software/
* Free maps are available to residents from the Mine Map Repository in Greentree, PA (Fee for commercial use).

***US Steel Clairton Coke Works Air Quality Discussion***

* Kevin Polick provided an update. Michael Roads is no longer plant manager (who we met previously) it is now Mark Jeffery.
* Rick sent a KDKA article on the Clairton Coke Work Battery shutdown time frame. The date of March 27 is provided. [Link](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cbsnews.com%2Fpittsburgh%2Fnews%2Fu-s-steels-clairton-coke-works-shutting-down-3-batteries-as-part-of-2021-environmental-commitment%2F%3Fintcid%3DCNM-00-10abd1h&data=05%7C01%7Clori_bartrug%40campbells.com%7C915deb93424a4249ba6f08db2629427f%7Ca0a180f0657a438b891f49417a6dd8bc%7C0%7C0%7C638145731052804794%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=cpT2j2Ekpjk7z0N5bNUqQZLC6eyaVjHPPFFRYMLHwUk%3D&reserved=0)
* Rick discussed the email he sent to EAC, GASP (Group Against Smog and Pollution) filed a Petition for Objection with EPA to object to the Title V Operating Permit for Clairton Coke Works.  This was issued on March 6 and EPA has 45 days to review it.  Here is the petition on the EPA website: [Link](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.epa.gov%2Fsystem%2Ffiles%2Fdocuments%2F2023-03%2FGASP%2520Clairton%2520Coke%2520Works%2520Petition_3-06-23.pdf&data=05%7C01%7Clori_bartrug%40campbells.com%7C915deb93424a4249ba6f08db2629427f%7Ca0a180f0657a438b891f49417a6dd8bc%7C0%7C0%7C638145731052804794%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ENE9Abdb4YG9aaC3hCsmA%2FVy3OSr%2FJY37iGt2Oxu6S8%3D&reserved=0)
* Discussion around orange impact days and our team monitoring once the batteries close (do the orange days decrease?) Christina posed the idea of getting the county to place a monitor at Jefferson Hills Intermediate School. Lori mentioned she has a monitor from CMU on her property, but it is not working.
	+ **NEXT STEPS:**
	+ Christina to reach out to her contact at the county to see if they can put us in touch with someone to have a monitor placed at the Intermediate School
	+ Lori to follow up with CMU on her monitor which is not working

***New Borough Website and EAC Information***

Johns provided an update – a Community Relations person started Monday. Website work will begin.

***Other Discussion Items:***

* Beedle Park - John provided an update on the new roadway. A Paver & Roller has been approved for purchase in the capital budget. We will put in the access road from Scheinbach Road versus Walton Road (too steep). Additional parking will be put in as well.
* Christina brought up the past topic of using a local university to support impact studies such as an environmental impact study. Christina referenced work done by CMU.
	+ **NEXT STEP** – how do we leverage university capstone projects at CMU/WVU/Penn State
* John provided an update on the Mon-Fayette Expressway. Work began this week, and we are the 1st community where the work will start. Millers Run Road will be impacted and closed permanently. There will be a lot of detours, John will keep us updated.
* Kevin spoke to over 300 new homes coming to a new development on Gill Hall Road, 3 cars per house, lawnmowers, and trees being cleared. Can we provide a list of incentives for residents – purchase electric equipment, free trees, etc. Are there discount programs from Home Depot, Duquesne Light (Jacksonville Energy example given). John mentioned staying away from the Shade Tree Commission as there are many requirements. Terri proposed idea of a Tree Farm.
	+ **NEXT STEP:** Kevin will look into incentives and encourages other to also.
* Discussion around looking into what other communities are doing and outputs from their EAC.
	+ **NEXT STEP:** Rick proposed everyone on the team spend some time on the internet looking.

***Motion to Adjourn by Terri, Lori 2nd the motion***

***Meeting ended 7:54 pm.***

***Next Scheduled Meeting***: Wednesday, April 26th, 2023, at 6:30 pm