



FOX CHAPEL

BOROUGH

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING June 12, 2023 MINUTES

PRESENT: Austin P. Henry, Chairman; Peggy G. Jayme, Brenda McEver, Donald H. Newman, Jay S. Troutman, Members; Dan Moretti, Zoning Administrator; John Heyl, Borough Engineer; Kelsey Mersing, Borough Administrative Assistant

VIA ZOOM: Thomas J. Murphy, Nanette Bennett, Members; Nicholas Cron; Laurance Kotys; Jake Dykes, KU Resources, Inc.; Michael Galet, Gateway Engineers, Inc.

ALSO PRESENT: Tysen Miller, KU Resources, Inc.; Joel Papcunik, PVE LLC; Frederick Leech, Borough Council; Jim Royston; John Charley; Michael Pohl

Mr. Henry called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

It was moved and seconded that the minutes from the meeting held on May 8, 2023, be approved as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

<u>Tree Removal Application:</u>	Nicholas and Kristen Cron
TR-23-63	20 Wedgewood Lane
	Removal of 33 Trees

Nicholas Cron was in attendance to answer questions related to the removal of 33 trees over 6" DBH on his property. With approval, he intends to remove the trees and plant some smaller, flowering trees in their place to allow airflow and sunlight to get to the home and dry out the area. Mr. Cron stated two White Pines directly in front of the home and several Spruce trees along the driveway suffer from needle cast disease due to the moist conditions of the lot.

Ms. Jayme noted the receipt of two letters from concerned neighbors regarding the removal of the trees. In researching needle cast disease and speaking with an arborist, Ms. Jayme believes these trees are beyond the treatment stage and does not have a problem with their removal. However, she would like to see a replanting plan showing where the trees will be placed.

Mr. Henry reiterated the EAC requires specificity in the way of a replanting plan the homeowner commits to and that can be used to make a recommendation to Borough Council.

Following discussion, it was agreed that Mr. Cron will prepare a replanting plan for consideration at the next meeting.

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EAC Application:

23-11

Ellen and Randall Crawford
Submitted by KU Resources, Inc.

103 Catalpa Ridge Road

Regrading and Drainage Work to Redirect Stormwater

Tysen Miller from KU Resources, Inc. was in attendance to present the application for 103 Catalpa Ridge Road. The plan proposes a traditional French drain system and putting in a more defined swale between the property line and the house to redirect drainage away from the home and the pool.

With input from Mr. Kotys, there was discussion concerning the direction of the flow and the potential for increased, concentrated flow resulting in problems to neighboring properties.

As directed by LSSE, an investigation into a direct connection to a storm sewer or a detention facility, or, if not viable, a detailed design for a level spreader or dispersion device is needed.

Following review and discussion, it was moved by Mr. Troutman to table the matter until the next meeting.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Newman and passed by unanimous vote.

Mr. Royston added, as an adjacent property owner, if there is a way to capture the water and direct it into a storm sewer, he is willing to try to be helpful to the extent he can.

OLD BUSINESS

EAC Application:

23-07

James and Susan Liken

Submitted by PVE LLC

121 Evergreen Road

New Single-Family Dwelling

Joel Papcunik from PVE, LLC was in attendance to answer questions on the updated plans for 121 Evergreen Road, which propose to raze the existing structure and build a similar single-family home in its same location. With the adjustment to the original plans, there will be a slight turn to the driveway, causing one tree, an old River Birch, to be removed in the driveway location.

Ms. Bennett pointed out an ornamental Maple shown on the drawing behind the house that appears to be in the way of a drain pipe. Mr. Papcunik confirmed the downspout would be rerouted to avoid the removal of the tree.

Following review and discussion, Mr. Newman moved that Environmental Disturbance Application No. 23-07 be recommended for approval by Borough Council as submitted contingent upon the items set forth in the LSSE letter dated May 31, 2023.

The motion was seconded by Ms. Jayme and passed by a unanimous vote.

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Environmental Disturbance Application:
22-01

William C Tippins
109 Hickory Hill Road
Expiration of EAC Application

Michael Galet from Gateway Engineers, Inc. attended to answer any questions about the stormwater survey and the narrative prepared for Mr. Tippins.

Ms. Jayme noted the EAC received seven emails from property owners residing on Hickory Hill Road addressing stormwater runoff and landscaping concerns, specifically a large wood chip pile, on the site. In addition to his email, Dr. Charley was in attendance to provide comments on the matter.

There was an in-depth discussion regarding the clearing of the lot and the fulfillment of the replanting plan based on the proposed construction of a home. For the interim, Ms. Bennett suggested planting trees around the perimeter, leaving the center open for a future build, in order to screen the property from the neighbors.

Following discussion, Mr. Troutman moved to recommend to Borough Council that the applicant be required to conform with the complete replanting plan, which was a contingency of the original application. The motion was amended to include a strong recommendation the wood chip pile be addressed and to start the screening trees within 60 days.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Murphy and passed by unanimous vote.

There being no other business to come before the EAC, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

KELSEY M. MERSING
Administrative Assistant