

**WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL (EAC)**  
**Westtown Municipal Building, 1039 Wilmington Pike, West Chester, PA**  
**Tuesday, November 26, 2024 7:00 PM**

**Present:** EAC members Bob Yeats (Chair), Ray Dandrea (Voce Chair), Joe Debes, Mike Gioia, Kim Maialetti, and Adam Kapp. Russ Hatton was absent. Also present was Mila Carter, Township manager.

**I. Call to Order**

Bob introduced a new EAC member, Kim Maialetti, and called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

Kim provided some background information about herself and expressed excitement over joining the EAC. There was a brief discussion about the EAC's challenges expressed by members, including a lack of social media presence, Township communication policies, and change in direction with municipal officials. Kim suggested to reassess the role of the EAC and to come up with the plan for messaging and mechanism to implement it to encourage participation from the community. Bob felt that there were minimum results from the community in response to the EAC's previous initiatives. Kim suggested to identify the focus areas and stressed the importance of educating the community prior to efforts taking place. She thought that coming up with the strategic plan for 2025 that outlines how to accomplish initiatives would be a good start. Adam further suggested to identify areas of focus on an annual basis. The EAC agreed to discuss it further in the future.

**II. Adoption of Agenda**

Adam made a motion to adopt agenda as presented. Kim seconded. There was no public comment, and the motion passed 6-0.

**III. Approval of Minutes**

Adam proposed a minor grammatical change and made a motion to approve the minutes of October 22, 2024. Ray seconded. Kim abstained. There was no public comment, and the motion passed 5-0.

**IV. Announcements**

1. Ray announced an opportunity to partner with the NCC-EAC for WeConservePA event scheduled for May 2025 and asked whether there is an interest. Joe complimented that these events are organized very professionally and provide great informative sessions for the participants. Kim asked about the extent of commitment partnering on the event. Bob provided that these events require large event space which Westtown probably cannot accommodate. Adam suggested to partner but not to cohost due to limited ability. Bob wondered about the subjects of presentations and suggested to showcase the EAC's accomplishments. Joe noted that the most interesting exhibitions are widely and openly supported by the Boards and thought it made a big difference. Kim suggested to focus on attending to generate ideas for Westtown. Adam asked about the attendance fees. Mila stated that it will be covered by the Township and encouraged EAC members to attend.

**V. Public Comment (non-agenda items)**

None.

## **VI. Old Business**

### **A. Roadside Trash Cleanup Initiative**

Ray announced that he cleaned up several Crebilly related and political signs and observed some trash at the intersection of Westtown Road and Route 926, on the west side of Westtown Road and in the adjacent meadow. He noted that Public Works provided him with cones and he was able to clean up some of that trash filling up a bag on Sunday morning. He also provided that grabbers got damaged fairly quickly, and recommended to use rakes and hedge clippers to do it more efficiently. Adam asked whether Ray thought there was an issue with safety. Ray responded that it works with cones along Westtown Road, but it might not be as safe along Route 926. Bob pointed out that West Vincent Litter lifters utilize police and asked how to arrange that. Adam wondered whether there would be any pushback from the Board. Ray did not think police presence was necessarily. Kim wondered whether involving Beth from West Vincent might be beneficial, and asked whether focus areas have been identified. Bob responded that the EAC wanted to focus on sections along Route 352 and Route 926 in 2025. Adam suggested to hold the first event in February. Ray felt that the most appropriate weather was in the spring and fall. Adam suggested to partner with Beth and to gain assistance from the state police with the focus on Route 926 before moving any further. Kim thought that trash pickup is a great Earth Day event. The Council members agreed and have chosen Crebilly Preserve as a place to hold such event. Adam recapped that the cleanup date will be scheduled on or around the Earth Day at Crebilly Preserve with the Council working on next steps to boost community involvement. Bob suggested to attend one of events organized by Beth to learn and gather ideas.

### **B. Rustin High School Environmental Club**

Bob recapped that presentation has been scheduled and asked the Council to think about specific goals this initiative thrives to achieve. Adam asked about the potential number of students. Bob did not know but stated that there was a definite interest from the club to be involved in the various initiatives.

## **VII. New Business**

### **A. Single Use Plastics Ban Ordinance**

Bob recapped that he and Ray had a call with Kennett about the plastics ban ordinance and Kathy Cook from Chesco Plastic Task Force, which they wanted to further explore for Westtown. Adam noted that EAC has worked on that before and the Board expressed no interest in such ordinance, and asked how it would be different. Ray suggested to have a game plan with the community's involvement prior to bringing it up to the Board. Bob stated that there are many resources on this subject matter and assistance available for its development and implementation. Kim thought that the first step is to have a strategic plan. She recapped that the state was working on something similar and wondered whether it was better be left to the state if there is no support in the community. Bob felt that the state will not act on the issue. Ray pointed out that many municipalities are adopting such ordinances and provided several examples in the southeastern Pennsylvania and Chester County. Adam wondered

whether the EAC has enough bandwidth for this effort and wanted to know the specific steps to move it forward. Kim suggested educational workshops for the community. Adam suggested to discuss the topic at a later time once other initiatives are underway. He also suggested to invite Kathy Cook to educate the Council on this topic and to provide some recommendations. Kim provided an idea to provide boxed water at Westtown Day as an educational tool to make community aware of the issue. The Council thought it was a good idea.

**B. Westtown School Outreach**

Ray provided that he reached out to Westtown School about presenting to students and partnering on future initiatives. He would meet with Rebecca Rankin to learn more about the school's sustainability program and opportunities for collaboration.

**C. Newsletter Gazette Articles**

Joe suggested to include a date for Crebilly Preserve clean up in the newsletter if it is possible. Kim suggested to write an article on the importance of roadside trash cleanup and provide some announcements about various initiatives to keep community aware.

**VIII. Public Comment (All Topics)**

None.

**IX. Reports**

1. Joe provided the Board of Supervisors report from the November 4, 2025 meeting.
2. There was no report on the BirdTown Committee meeting, but Ray recapped that the sign for Bird Town to be installed in the meadow is in discussions with the property owner and that he has a lead on readymade bird houses.
3. There was no report on the Planning Commission's meeting.

**X. Adjournment**

Bob noted that the EAC meeting scheduled for Christmas Eve, December 24, 2025 has been cancelled. There being no further business, Bob adjourned the meeting at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Liudmila Carter  
Township Manager