

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
ANNUAL PLANNING SESSION
SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 2019
FINAL APPROVED MINTES**

The East Goshen Township Board of Supervisors held the Annual Planning Session on Saturday, January 12, 2019 at the Township Building. Those in attendance were:

Board of Supervisors

Janet Emanuel, Chairman
Martin Shane, Vice Chairman
Carmen Battavio
David Shuey
Michael Lynch

Conservancy Board

Erich Meyer, Chairman
Walter Wujcik

Futurist Committee

Thomas Kilburn

Historic Commission

Ted Roberts, Chairman

Township Staff

Rick Smith, Township Manager
Jon Altshul, Asst. Township Manager & CFO
Mark Gordon , Township Zoning Officer
Jason Lang, Director of Parks and Recreation

Municipal Authority

Kevin Cummings, Chairman
Jack Yahraes

Park & Recreation Commission

Daniel Leicht, Chairman
Deborah Snyder

Pipeline Task Force

Judy DiFonzo

Planning Commission

Brad Giresi, Chairman
Ernest Harkness

Sustainability Committee

Monica Close
Christi Supple

Janet Emanuel opened the meeting at 8:15 am. She welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming.

Conservancy Board

Erich Meyer explained that the mission of the Conservancy Board is to preserve the natural resources in East Goshen Township. Their accomplishments for 2018 are:

1. Keep East Goshen Beautiful Day was held on April 21st. We had great weather this year. About 80 bags of trash were collected along with many car parts. We had about 45 volunteers plus some supervisors on the actual day along with some groups that picked up trash during the following week.

2. Spring Planting – In May we planted 9 trees along East Boot Road in the wetlands. Public Works assisted us with digging the holes using an auger. The trees were procured from Sam Brown’s Nursery in Malvern. Erich provided a list of the types of trees.

3. Worked with the Township and the Marydell Pond Committee on the restoration of the Marydell Pond.
4. In December we finished the spreading of wood chips around the bases of the trees in Clymer's Woods to help control weed growth and to keep lawn equipment away from the tree trunks to prevent damage to the bark.
5. Continued invasive species control.
6. The blue bird houses in Applebrook were cleaned out and maintained.

Their goals for 2019 are:

1. Keep East Goshen Beautiful Day will be on April 13, 2019.
2. Continue maintenance of the blue bird houses in Applebrook.
3. Continue maintaining Clymer's Woods by replacing dead trees and reapplying wood chips around trees.
4. Maintain the riparian buffer along the creeks.
5. Continue invasive species control.
6. Continue assisting with the pond restoration projects as needed.

Mike commented about KEGBD, since the township has the trash along the roads picked up on a regular basis now, has the CB considered doing specific areas instead of along the roads. Erich answered that there is always clean up to be done. Mike asked David if the Sustainability Committee will override what the CB does. David explained that the Sustainability Committee will be involved in all aspects of the Township; such as environmental, sewer, financial, etc. It will also overlap other ABCs.

Erich mentioned that the Board needs 2 more members.

Futurist Commission

Tom Kilburn mentioned the other members of the Commission. Rod Vaughn has been an integral part of the committee since its inception nearly 5 years ago and brings much business and community leadership experience. Brad Giresi joined 3 years ago. In addition to his leadership role as Chairman of the Planning Commission, he has provided great insight into the future of community planning. Luann Petrelis is no longer a member of our committee due to other commitments but made significant contributions to our committee during her 4 ½ year tenure.

As we continue to look to the future, our committee has spent the last several years researching and evaluating trends in forward thinking about communities with attributes similar to ours. We have found much research by experts regarding what communities need to do to prepare for the changes in technology, lifestyles and demographics that we will likely experience over the next 10-20 years. In addition to this broad based research, this summer we utilized an age-friendly checklist provided by the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) to evaluate the age-friendliness of EG. We will be using the results of this preliminary evaluation to make recommendations to the BOS for possible future projects. All of this research makes one issue clear. Technological change is moving so much faster than most people's ability to adapt to these changes. Lifestyles are undergoing changes as significant technologies take hold and provide us with ever changing ways to communicate, work, shop and travel. Last year we celebrated the

11th anniversary of the I-Phone introduction in 2007! Many of us can't imagine how we could get along without one of these mini computers/cameras/phones. The year 2007 was also a year when managing large quantities of data became enough faster to enable significant improvements in technologies requiring this capability such as driverless cars. Think how much data need to be handled in nanoseconds for these cars to be safe. New technology is allowing workers more flexibility as they can work from nearly anywhere. More people can work from home where they have less personal interaction than in the traditional workplace. Our children are spending more time indoors on lifelike video games. We text or email rather than pick up the phone. Our research indicates these trends brought about by new technologies are moving us away as a society from human interaction in our daily routines. As a result, we need to find that human interaction in other ways.

I took advantage of a beautiful New Year's day to ride my bike through East Goshen park and further west starting from Line Road. It was great to see everyone out walking with family and friends, enjoying our beautiful park on the first day of the New Year. They were enjoying some of that human interaction we all need to thrive. I could really feel the sense of community that exists here in East Goshen. I kept riding along Paoli Pike to where the existing trail ends. I tried to imagine what it will be like when the new Paoli Pike Trail is in place and we will be able to ride the entire distance across our beautiful Township. Perhaps we will be able to meet with friends from other neighborhoods for a cruise through our Township. Connecting neighborhoods with the trail is an important longer term vision that has been laid out in the Paoli Pike Master Plan. Perhaps we will be able to stop for a bite of lunch at one of the new or improved eateries we hope will be attracted to our Town Center when the streetscape in the Town Center is more inviting than today with new trees and attractive lights and colorful banners welcoming visitors. Maybe there will be a pop up art exhibit along the trail to lure us in for a second look or we can take a break at one of the mini parks planned. Many communities already have these types of amenities that add value to their residents' lives and property.

East Goshen is fortunate to have numerous assets that position us favorably for the future when compared to our neighboring communities. We have attractive neighborhoods offering varied housing types over a wide price range. We are well situated geographically. We are located an easy commute to many job opportunities and are not bisected by a major freeway. We have a vibrant business park that provides many jobs for area residents. We have an amazing recreational park and programs that provide many active opportunities for residents of all ages. We have a rich history with several restored historical sites. We will soon have a pedestrian and bike cross-township paved trail that will tie many of the above mentioned areas together. This will allow individuals to walk or bike from one area or neighborhood to another without relying on a car. In addition, the Paoli Pike Master Plan has additional trails planned. These trails will tie in even more neighborhoods creating a network of trails throughout the township all connected to the main artery, Paoli Pike, which bisects our community. Our research tells us the pedestrian and bike trails are key to providing the foundation for a healthy lifestyle, which is becoming more and more important to families across America.

What we lack and what would set us apart from many other communities in our area is an attractive and vibrant Town Center – a place that would provide a strong sense of identity and a place for people to gather. The Paoli Pike Master Plan provides us a vision of what this Town Center could look like and sets out steps needed to achieve this vision. Our research indicates that as we adapt to the rapid technological changes around us, it is all the more important to promote a sense of community. I think all of you in this room value community or you wouldn't be here this morning. People are using new technologies to communicate and work remotely but we still need that availability for human interaction. A Town Center would provide much of that need for a "gathering place". It would include small shops, restaurants, specialty food stores and micro-businesses just to name a few. It would be an attractive area that would include green spaces and public plazas. This area would be an extension of our beautiful park and be an added centerpiece for community events and gatherings offering a new level of personal interaction in the heart of our community. In addition, the vision for a Town Center lays out plans to add street trees and landscaping that would be as appealing as what we have in our neighborhoods, bringing beauty to our center. Efficient, attractive lighting would add a warm evening glow differentiating the EG Town Center from neighboring communities. With careful planning we can maintain the bucolic setting of our township while embracing architectural innovation and technology. We have our vision. The Paoli Pike Master Plan lays it out nicely and some progress has already been made. The Planning Commission began working early last year to develop a new zoning plan. This plan will ensure that new development or redevelopment of the Town Center area aligns with our long term vision. This is important because we expect that construction of the Paoli Pike Trail which is expected to start later this year, will attract interest in new development or redevelopment in the town Center area. I believe this zoning plan is targeted for BOS approval in the first quarter. I applaud their timely work on this very important and difficult task. Another key milestone was achieved last year when township residents overwhelmingly approved allowing alcohol sales in the township in a referendum. When we consulted with several restaurateurs and commercial realtors the ability to offer alcohol sales was a key ingredient in their interest in developing new dining options for the Town Center, a key to a vibrant center.

As I mentioned, the PPMP lays out a vision for the future of a Town Center that will provide a community identity and a place for people to gather. It would be an attractive area that would be as appealing as our neighborhoods and parks. In addition, this Town Center would add value to the investment in our homes as East Goshen becomes a more attractive place. It is important for the Township to add amenities so that it can compete with neighboring communities that attract new buyers because they offer new homes.

Implementation of the Town Center plan and the overall PPMP is estimated to be expensive. Therefore, spending will need to be spread out over a number of years. With the other projects already underway, we feel that a 10-year capital plan needs to be developed to address long term spending. Our committee will need broader input to develop this plan so we will be seeking ideas from the BOS and township staff as well as other ABC's. Additionally, some shorter term lower cost,

impact spending needs to be identified that will kick start community interest in our plan. One potential idea is to add street lighting and landscaping only in front of the Township Administration Building. This would provide the community a visual preview of what is envisioned for the entire Town Center area. I know the Planning Commission also has some interesting ideas on how to move forward on development and redevelopment opportunities with the Town Center. We have also begun to research how other communities move these types of projects forward and will be sharing the results of this work in the future. We also believe that gaining a competitive advantage over other West Chester area townships will require a significant marketing effort. The desirability of our neighborhoods, parks and homes along with envisioned new trails and revitalized Town Center is a story that needs telling. Ideas and help to make a vibrant and attractive Town Center a reality are always welcome. We look forward to working with everyone here in making EGT an even better place to call home.

Comments: Marty attended some meetings in the past week including the Futurist Committee. He was at the Chamber meeting and they brought up alternative energy and what it means in transportation. Skip Brion said we have to begin thinking about zoning which is important in this respect. We have given no thought to what vehicles will be like as far as needing electrical plugs. Biking will be widely used. West Goshen stands between us and West Chester. There has been talk of expanding the Trail. There are issues with the width of Paoli Pike into West Chester. In the future we will be able to bike from here to Philly or Harrisburg. Zoning needs to be in place. Landscapes 3 is done. Marty encouraged the ABCs to look at it so they know how changes will affect us. What we have done with the Master Plan now is good. Begin thinking in zoning mode about what will be needed. Mike feels the FC sees the future vision for the Town Center and thanked Tom and the Committee members for helping bring him along into the future. David mentioned that Hankin is building an apartment building with garages on the 1st floor that can be converted to living space when we don't use cars. Also there will be electric bikes. So we need to think about the trail and separating the bikes from people.

Historical Commission

Ted Roberts introduced himself. Mike mentioned that Ted lives in the historic Three Tuns Tavern at the intersection of Rte. 352 and King Road. He is glad the HC has been revived. They still need some members.

Ted gave a review of 2018:

1. They have established regular meeting schedule
2. Increased Commission membership
3. Analyzed structure and role of the Historical Commission
4. Initiated a Christmas ornament project
5. Identified goals for future study and implementation

Ted mentioned that an ornament for 2018 of the Blacksmith Shop was designed and is being sold at the Township Building. 300 were made for this first ornament. As new people move into EG, they will be able to purchase past ornaments. We want to show the history that has been preserved so well. Property owners have a passion

for the historic building. We want to get them involved. Sullivan House (in Hershey Mill) was taken off the historic list many years ago. We are going to work to get it back on the list. Ted wants to start a plaque program for the historic properties. They have considered having them hand made in the Blacksmith Shop. He mentioned Commission member Ed Lendrat who has done so much to record the township history. Ted suggested that Ed be named the Township Historian. The Commission's Goals for 2019 are:

1. Working with owners of properties on the historic inventory list
 - a. Send a questionnaire to the property owners
 - b. Meeting/social gathering with owners to explore goals and new ideas.
2. Add Sullivan House (Hershey's Mill) to the property list
3. Schedule meetings with Historical Commissions in other townships
4. Schedule meeting with former board members, re-enactment participants, Chester County Historical Society representative, Board of Supervisor Liaison and property owners
5. Implement "official" Township plaque identifying historic properties
6. Develop new identity and mission statement for the Historical Commission.

Ted mentioned that the HC considered having an article in the newsletter "Did You Know?" which would have data about the history of the Township.

Jon mentioned that articles for the next newsletter have to be submitted to him by February 1st.

Municipal Authority

Jack Yahraes, 2018 Chairman, introduced Kevin Cummings, 2019 Chairman. Jack commented that in 1945 after World War II, there were a lot of infrastructure problems in PA. They created authorities to have an independent authority oversee local areas. In 1967 East Goshen started their own Municipal Authority. Today there are 6,000 units on line. There are still 500 that have on-site systems. It is costly to maintain onsite systems. We have an agreement with West Goshen, which allows us to send 1 million gallons per day to that plant. We have 80 miles of sewer lines and 1,000 manholes. We send 80,000 gallons of treated water per day to Applebrook to spray the golf course. It costs \$3,000,000/year to operate the sewer system. We bought the plant from a developer for \$1 and have spent \$10 million to expand and update it.

Kevin commented that their goal is to run the plant under state compliance through the DEP. In 2018 the plant ran very well. We have a good crew working there. We are doing more to make the plant as reliable as possible. West Goshen has a capacity of 7 million gallons. They are currently upgrading. We had a bond offering to pay our 1/7th of the cost. Mark Miller and his crew have done a good job of keeping unwanted water from getting into our system. We used to send 1.2 million gallons/day to West Goshen. Now we send 700-800,000/day because of their work. Talmadge Dr. sewer is being upgraded. East Goshen is below average as to what the residents pay for sewer. 2018 was very wet and our plant was able to handle the inflow of water that doesn't need to be treated.

Park & Recreation Commission

Jason Lang mentioned that when he came here there were 7 members on the Commission. Now there are 9. Past Chairmen were Joe Zulli and Christine Taraborelli. The new Chairman is Dan Leicht. 2018 accomplishments were:

1. All Park Commission accomplishments were shared with the Public Works Department. They work early, late and tirelessly in support of park operations.

2. East Goshen Township Park playground renovation was completed June 30, 2018, becoming the first state funded nature play area in Pennsylvania.

3. Renovated the basketball court area with full size, clear acrylic backboards.

4. Secured \$980,000 in grants from PA DCNR, DCED and DEP to develop Milltown Dam and Hershey's Mill Parks. This brings the department's three year total to \$5.6M in grant funding for the Paoli Pike Trail, EGT Park destination playground and Milltown Dam Park capital projects.

5. East Goshen Township was designated a Gold Level Sustainable Community by the PA Sustainable Community Certified Program, the first in Chester County.

6. EGPR's Mid-Atlantic Camp Dance became the template for NRPA's National summer Camp Dance. In total, over 50,000 campers across the country took part, dancing to EGPR moves!!

7. New events in 2018: Escape the Blacksmith Shop and Teen Awesome FEST. Both were very successful.

Dan mentioned that he retired in 2014 as a police detective. He and his wife went around the east coast and came to the East Goshen Farmers Market. The park was a draw so they moved here. A position came open on the PRC so he joined. The Goals for 2019 are:

1. The picnic grove park improvement will be completed by the end of spring.

2. A cricket pitch will be constructed on the soccer fields to meet the growing demand for the sport.

3. Complete construction of the Paoli Pike Trail Segments F-G and continue work on other funded segments.

4. Offer nature and art focused programming. Examples include butterfly garden discussions, Ridley Creek excursions, painting in the park, and Kid's chalk art projects.

5. Develop a formal volunteer plan focusing on skilled volunteers and volunteer base.

6. Investigating the addition of a beer/wine garden to the Food Truck and Music Festival in August.

Comments:

Marty feels that Jason has become a grant expert in writing and follow through.

He also thanked Jon and his staff for getting low interest rates.

Jason mentioned that in 2019 there will be a Filmmakers event at the movie theater in Exton for teens.

Jason mentioned that the Friends of East Goshen raises funds for park events. They need 3 new members. They have daytime meetings.

Paoli Pike Trail Update

Mark Gordon reported that segments A & B are in the engineering phase. They received a grant for \$483,000 for segment A which covers Airport Road to Ellis Lane. Segment B has a 400 foot bridge to be built. Segments CDEF&G to Line Road are in submission to DEP for permits. PennDOT permits are next. Segments F&G will be done in house. It will take 2 ½ years to build the trail. When all permits are received, everything will go to the DCNR for final approval. Also, we received approval for a traffic light at Paoli Pike and Hibberd Lane at the entrance to the Park.

Pipeline Task Force (PTF)

David Shuey reported that in May 2018 EGT assembled an ad hoc public meeting to answer the question, "What can EGT do to assure the health and safety of its residents in the context of existing and future pipeline activity?" This meeting resulted in 13 recommendations, one of which was to form an EGT Pipeline committee. The BOS passed a resolution (2018-78) on July 17th that establishes the EGT Pipeline Task Force (PTF). The stated duties and responsibilities of the task force are:

1. Promote the public interest in the work of the task force.
2. Undertake review and assessment of the regulatory and technical aspects of pipeline infrastructure affecting EGT.
3. Advise the BOS and make recommendations on pipeline legislation (state and federal) and regulatory (PUC, FERC, PHMSA, DEP) matters.
4. Cultivate relationships and network with other municipal governments and citizen interest groups.
5. Perform other such duties as may be delegated to the PTF from time to time by the BOS.
6. Prepare objective information releases about pipelines for public dissemination.

In 2018 the PTF held 3 meetings (Nov 12 and 27 and Dec 20). BOS member, David Shuey, has acted as meeting facilitator until the group feels comfortable electing officers. There are 5 members.

The PTF categorized its future work into 4 overarching topics:

1. Resident preparedness and communications
2. Pipeline monitoring (exploration and inspection)
3. Legislation (PA and Federal)
4. Regulatory issues

In 2018 the PTF has begun to address a number of issues within its objectives including but not limited to:

1. Holding a special meeting with Chester Co. Dept. of Emergency Services to explore resident disaster readiness
2. Support for currently proposed PA legislation regulating pipeline activity
3. Explore pipeline air quality monitoring
4. Explore public emergency notification infrastructure

5. Consider filing as an intervenor on complaints filed with the PUC or DEP regarding pipeline safety issues.

6. Consider filing an EGT complaint

7. Consider submitting a Chapter 5 PUC request regarding non-preempted State pipeline regulations.

Rick Smith gave an update on the Sunoco pipeline. They have been out surveying and should be back in the Spring to continue drilling. He mentioned that there is an environmental report on EGT website and residents have until February 3, 5:00 pm to ask questions. There will be a public meeting on January 31, 7:00 pm at East High School with PA commission members.

Marty thanked Rick for the time he has taken to learn and understand pipelines.

Planning Commission

Brad Giresi acknowledged the other members of the Commission and thanked Mark Gordon for all of the support he gives them.

2018 Goals and Accomplishments

Goals: 1. General – Review and recommend SD/LD/CU/V applications.

2. Review and recommend zoning code amendments from Master Plan, Trail, PPCMPC, etc.

a. Goshenville TND Zoning

b. Residential (Open Space) Development –there will be a public meeting on January 22, 7:00 pm at East High School.

Accomplishments:

1. PC, Staff and all involved – thank you for your commitment to working through a multitude of regular meetings, ad hoc meetings and workshops.

2. Applications

a. Malvern Institute (V, SE)

b. East Goshen Elementary School (LD)

c. Various Residential Applications (SD,LD,CU)

d. Child Daycare on Wilson Drive (CU)

3. Zoning Code Amendments

a. Residential (Open Space) Development – gave recommendation

b. Goshenville TND Zoning – ongoing effort

c. Keeping of Fowl – provided recommendation

d. Incubator Uses – provided recommendation. This was introduced by Jon Altshul. It provides co-working spaces for start up entrepreneurs.

e. Zoning Variance Time Limit – provided recommendation

f. (Temporary) Fireworks Sales – provided recommendation

4. Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup (Strasburg Road) – Completed.

2019 Goals

1. Goshenville TND Zoning

2. Goshenville TND Design Guidelines – streetscape.

3. Sustainability Committee coordination

Brad encouraged people to attend the PC meetings..

RECAP & CLOSING REMARKS

Janet commented that we are all a team. Obviously the ABCs have been working very hard and their efforts are greatly appreciated. Our staff also has an important role in our success led by Rick, Jon, The 2 Marks and Jason. I'd like to specially mention Jon Altshul who has taken on a variety of roles this year including Assistant Township Manager, CFO and recording secretary for the BOS meetings and Jason Lang, who in addition to Park & Recreation is our grant writer extraordinaire.

The pipelines continue to be a major concern. In 2018 we dealt with both Sunoco and Adelphia Gateway. Sunoco is an intra-state pipeline under PUC regulation but Adelphia is inter-state which answers to FERC. We have cited Sunoco for noise ordinance violations but since Sunoco has been designated a Public Utility, the PUC has ultimate authority on issues. We have been in communication with our state legislators, the governor and the PUC to try to get them to address our concerns and initiate changes in regulations and responsibilities. We supported the Del-Chesco United risk assessment project and have become parties and intervenors in several PUC complaints. We are supporting Chester Co. Assoc. of Township Officials in their efforts, have met with local residents, citizen's groups and other organizations concerned about safety issues. Last but certainly not least the BOS created our own Pipeline Task Force to advise us on the ever-changing situation.

The Township has been awarded several grants this year thanks to our superb grant writers. In 2018 we were awarded \$630,000 for the Hershey's Mill Dam Park, \$350,000 for the Milltown Dam Park (in addition to \$565,000 awarded in 2017) and \$32,309 for the Barkway Pump Station Muffin Monster. (It grinds solids so pumps don't get clogged and the wastewater can be processed by the headworks), We have received \$475,000 for the wonderful destination playground which was completed this spring. In all, since 2016 we have been awarded \$5,438,309 for the above mentioned projects and segments of the Paoli Pike Trail.

Following a study by Natural Lands Trust, it was determined that 6 ponds owned by the Township needed remedial work. Based on current water quality, project complexity and pond visibility, Marydell Pond was chosen to go first. Working with the Marydell Pond Committee, we are in the last stages of developing a landscaping plan with abundant native plants and grasses for the area around the pond.

Unfortunately, due to so many rainy days, work on dredging the pond, which needs to be complete before planting can begin, is behind schedule. If Mother Nature cooperates, we hope to be at planting stage in late 2019. To avoid losing time, permitting for Bow Tree 1 pond has already begun and we plan to form a Bow Tree Pond Committee for landscaping there as well. Thanks to Mark Miller and his Public Works crew for all their hard work.

The same rainy weather as well as a slower than expected permitting process, has postponed work on the Paoli Pike Trail segments F and G, which we hoped would begin in 2018. Better luck in 2019. Besides engineering, work continues to get the necessary rights-of-way for the rest of the trail.

The inter-municipal contract between East Goshen and Westtown which authorizes the WEGO Police Commission expired at the end of 2018. Also expiring were the contract between WEGO and Thornbury Township and the contract between WEGO and the Police Union. East Goshen and Westtown have signed a new 5 year contract

and Thornbury will continue to contract with WEGO for police services for another 5 years. Despite efforts by Scott Yaw of Westtown, Mike Lynch and Janet to reach agreement with the Union, the Police contract will go to arbitration in June. East Goshen was recognized as a Gold Level sustainable community by the PA Municipal League, on our first try. Sustainability encompasses community design and land use, energy efficiency, health and wellness, intergovernmental cooperation, recycling and waste reduction, fiscal controls, and internal management and operations. Thanks to everyone involved in completing the multi-page application. There is one level above gold and our new Sustainability Committee is aiming toward Platinum.

Obviously most of the projects I mentioned are not completed so they will continue into 2019. In addition we plan a new vehicle Wash Bay to comply with state storm water requirements and we will be upgrading the entrance to the Township Building.

Thanks again to everyone and let's have a great 2019!

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Ruth Kiefer, Recording Secretary