



New Britain Township

Environmental Advisory Council

Kathleen Davis, Chair	Cynthia Jones, Supervisor
Mary Margaret Briggs, Member	Alex Mullin, NBT
Geraldine Reuter, Member	
Lucy Jones, Member	
Carol Weston-Young, Member	

Minutes – January 7th, 2026

Attended: K. Davis, M. Briggs (virtually), G. Reuter, C. Weston-Young, L. Jones, A. Mullin, C. Jones

Regrets: N/A

Meeting was called to order by K. Davis @ 7:00 pm.

Discussion:

- K. Davis announced that Cynthia Jones is the new Board Liaison for the EAC and that there is a new member, Gerrie Reuter. K. Davis announced that the first order of business was to reorganize the EAC Board. The Board of Supervisors for New Britain Township elects the EAC Chair and per the January 5th, Reorganization meeting, the Board selected Kathleen Davis.
- K. Davis asked for nominations for Vice-Chair.
- C. Weston-Young nominated Lucy Jones.
- C. Weston-Young motioned, and G. Reuter seconded a motion to nominate Lucy Jones as Vice-Chair. The motion passed unanimously.
- K. Davis asked for nominations for Secretary.
- C. Weston-Young nominated Alex Mullin.
- M. Briggs offered to act as Secretary in the event Alex is absent.
- C. Weston-Young motioned, and G. Reuter seconded a motion to nominate Alex Mullin as Secretary. The motion passed unanimously.
- Approval of Minutes– C. Weston-Young motioned, and G. Reuter seconded a motion to approve the December 3rd, 2025, minutes. The EAC unanimously approved the minutes.
- A discussion ensued regarding the trees for Watersheds Application submitted for North Branch Park Basin Naturalization. K. Davis explained what the grant proposal was for and the specifications of the project. She stated that they are looking for volunteers for the planting, as it would be roughly 150 trees, and that it would take place in the fall of 2026.



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- A discussion ensued regarding the demonstration/pollinator garden expansion. K. Davis explained that the preparation has been completed and that the Bucks Beautiful grant application is in process. She stated that the Public Works department marked the area and left the tree stump per the EACs' request. The EAC will need to start thinking of updating signage to help educate residents. Scout Troop 133 will oversee painting the additional water barrels needed for the larger garden.
- A discussion ensued regarding the status of the Bird Town application and request. The EAC gave a presentation at the December 15th Board of Supervisors meeting to explain why becoming a Bird town would be beneficial for the Township. M. Briggs explained that the application is currently in progress and that the township Solicitor is writing a Resolution for the January 26th meeting to be approved. Once that is approved then a subcommittee will need to be formed.
- A discussion ensued regarding utilizing a QR code for the signage at the pollinator garden and which method would be most effective in educating the public quickly and efficiently.
- A discussion ensued regarding native plant guest speaker Andrea Glang of Divine Earth Gardens. The thought is to have her present in May and conjoin this event with the regularly scheduled EAC meeting. The event will start around 5:30pm and go until the EAC meeting begins at 7pm.
- K. Davis explained that she spoke at the Plumstead EAC meeting and encouraged the establishment of a pollinator garden.
- The EAC would like to have a workshop at the demonstration/pollinator garden – demonstrate “how to” build a garden in late April or early May. Essentially a “plant & learn” type of event where the public can be invited to be included in the planting or simply ask questions about how to establish this type of garden at home.
- A discussion ensued about submitting a recommendation to join the Neshaminy Watershed Consortium to the Board of Supervisors. The Neshaminy Watershed Consortium is scheduled to present at the January 26th Board of Supervisors meeting so this recommendation would be in support of that presentation.
- L. Jones motioned, and C. Weston-Young seconded a motion to submit a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors regarding joining the Neshaminy Watershed Consortium. The motion passed unanimously.
- A discussion ensued regarding generating ideas for initiating plastic reduction throughout the township. K. Davis explained that one option could be to send a survey to the community asking their opinions and how they feel about the neighboring communities restricting plastic use.



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- Jim Morano, volunteered to help speak with businesses and spread the word about plastic reduction and alternative solutions.
- A discussion ensued regarding researching the cost of reusable bags to hand out for fall fest to promote this initiative. M. Briggs stated that she would investigate affordable options.
- A discussion ensued regarding using a model for the Naturalizing Lawn Ordinance. The organization, “We Conserve PA” provided a sample set that the EAC can use as a starting point. K. Davis explained that the concept of this ordinance is to allow residents to naturalize their lawns in ways not accounted for by Township ordinances. K. Davis explained that to begin the process of this initiative that the EAC would need to cross reference the sample ordinance with current ordinances already in place. K. Davis stated that the EAC will be reviewing ordinances offline and will come together as a group to create an ordinance better suited for New Britain Township.
- A discussion ensued regarding issues with topsoil in new developments. K. Davis explained that there seems to be better oversight of contractors during new development construction related to environmental issues (e.g. top-soil level).
- A discussion ensued regarding what builders are allowed and permitted to do during construction of a new development and what is happening during construction. The EAC board agreed that the redistribution of topsoil needs to be addressed.
- The EAC would like to make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors that the Township staff should enforce this issue beginning with a letter from the code enforcement office to measure soil distribution during the build process, after regrading but before seeding. The EAC would like Township staff to measure depth of top-soil prior to escrow release. M. Briggs agreed to draft a recommendation.
- A discussion ensued regarding the want and need for a mosquito bucket workshop. C. Weston-Young explained how this works and that it is relatively easy to obtain and utilize. L. Jones stated that the EAC board would like to establish a date for this workshop. June may be a good time to hold this type of event. She stated that this would give them time to price materials.
- A discussion ensued regarding shielded lighting and whether the development of Birch Run by Toll Brothers is currently complying with the agreed upon lighting throughout the community now that the first residents are beginning to move in. C. Jones stated to review the approved plans currently on the Township website to check for verbiage.
- Adjournment – A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by C. Weston-Young, seconded by K. Davis. Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.



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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Kathleen Davis', is written over a horizontal line.

Kathleen Davis, Chair

*The next meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council of New Britain Township will take place on **Wednesday, February 4th, 7:00 pm** at the New Britain Township Building, 207 Park Avenue, Chalfont, Pa. Agenda is posted to the Township website prior to the meeting date at www.newbritaintownship.org.*