

ROBESON TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Minutes
October 2, 2025

Present: Chip Kerasin, Kate Kennedy, Anne-Marie McMahon, Tom Keim

Guests: Sally Stalnaker, Chris Smith (supervisor liaison)

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

2. Roll Call

3. Approval of Minutes - 9/4/25

Chip moved to approve, Kate seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

4. Citizens Comments -

- Sally Stalnaker commented that the native plant giveaway was excellent.
- EAC members reported that four large perennials (smooth blue asters, in full bloom) appear to have been completely removed from the native plant garden around the township sign.

5. Discussion Items

- Share list of questions and concerns about data centers that we would recommend the Board of Supervisors or Planning Commission to consider, from an environmental impact perspective.
 - Based on an extensive review of research, members cited significant concerns about the known environmental impacts of data centers in communities, including excessive electricity and water usage that can create shortages; noise pollution from constantly running equipment, air pollution from back-up energy sources (like diesel generators) that are needed to ensure no downtime for the data center; and decreased water quality (from water being discharged after being used to cool equipment).
 - If a data center is built in the township at some point, it should not compromise the environment, or the health and wellbeing of township residents. The EAC proposes that the township adopt a data center ordinance to regulate where such a facility could be built in the township and what standards it should meet, and will work on a draft ordinance to present to the Board of Supervisors at their November meeting.
- Update and debrief on native tree distribution from PA/IPL and discuss donation to support their efforts.
 - We received 195 of our original 240 tree request, and then about 200 additional plants of species we had not ordered, so we ended up giving out 400+ free plants.

- In addition to the 28 people who pre-registered for trees, 4 additional people showed up and were able to receive plants. All of the plants were given away; people were enthusiastic and grateful.
- The program has no further funding and cannot continue next year. The EAC discussed that we will try to identify other partners who might be offering plants.
- **Motion to request the Board of Supervisors to authorize \$400 as a donation to [PA Interfaith Power and Light](#). Chip moved, Kate seconded, all in favor, motion carried.**
- Availability/posting of Meeting Agenda and Minutes
 - Township residents are not able to follow township news and events without having easy access to the minutes. Currently, only the agendas and minutes of the BOS and Planning Commission are accessible permanently on the township website under Resources > Meeting Minutes and Agendas. The availability of EAC minutes in paper form in the township office is inadequate, as most people will not take the time or trouble to visit the office to view them.
 - **Motion to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that minutes of all township committees, including the EAC, be posted to the website immediately after they are approved, and remain there in an archive. Kate moved, Chip seconded, all in favor, motion carried.**

6. Agenda for Next Meeting

- Refine and and approve the draft data center ordinance to send to the Board of Supervisors.

7. Old Business - N/A

8:41 pm. Chip moved to adjourn, Kate seconded, all in favor, motion carried.