

**UWCHLAN TOWNSHIP JOINT MEETING
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL &
PARK & RECREATION COMMITTEE
June 7, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairperson Joe Laird.

Present: Environmental Advisory Council Members: Nick Kurtz, Jim Warihay, Alexa Manning, Toni Gorkin, Susan Harris. Park & Recreation Committee Members: Joe Laird, Peg McCorry, Josh Bugay, Bill Fagan. Also present: Bruce McKenney, Katie Churchill, and Township Engineer Dan Daley.

Business:

1. Jones Pond Discussion:

Township Engineer Dan Daley gave a history on the pond from when he started working with the Township in the mid-1990s to the present. He discussed the work that the Township has done through the years and his discussions with DEP regarding the pond. Dan noted that the basin could be filled with “clean fill” to a level 2” or 3” below dam spillway before its stormwater basin collection function would be disrupted. Mr. Daley said what we are looking for tonight is a recommendation to take to the Board of Supervisors.

Both The Environmental Advisory Committee and the Park & Recreation Committee discussed all the factors to consider at this park.

Adverse factors to consider in repairing dam.

- Loss of piped connection from creek to pond. Need to properly secure permit to legally restore.
- Hillside recharge only is inadequate, particularly during extended dry periods.
- DEP not in favor of returning warm pond water to creek.
- Excessive silting in pond for Ida Storm/Flooding. Dredging needed, but probability of future flooding means this exercise could again be required following future flooding events.
- Dam and spillway will likely require future repairs.

Factors to consider for potential re-imagining of park. Engage landscape architect/designers to

- Consider Shamona Creek as the focal and sonic point to sit and relax
- Create resilient, environmentally sustainable area and structures. Possibly raised platform, extending from opposite, higher side of creek bank.
- Preserve history/heritage of Dowlin Forge community
- Maintain as a destination to appreciate nature and wildlife
- Design environmental restoration within former pond limits, incorporate stream/water features, rain gardens, possible boardwalk through nature area.

Questions and Comments raised from the Environmental Advisory Council and Park & Recreation Committee:

- Toni Gorkin asked if this was a result from Hurricane Ida
- Peg McCorry asked about the DEP reestablishing the water source.
- Bill Fagan said this pond is manmade and asked how many times have we had to fix it in the past.

Questions and Comments from the public:

- Art Rothe said he has never seen anyone working on the pond.
- Mary Anne Micieri said Jones Pond was a gift donated to the Township and there is wildlife in there and we should try and preserve it.

Mr. Warihay made a motion to recommend a passive stormwater feature approach to Jones Pond. Ms.

Harris seconded. Mr. Kurtz asked for public comment. There being none, the motion was carried unanimously.

There being no other business Mr. Bugay made a motion to adjourn at 8:20 pm., Mrs. McCorry seconded and the motion was carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Churchill