

Newtown Borough Environmental Advisory Council
December 8, 2025 Minutes
Council Chambers 23 N. State St. Newtown PA 18940 and Zoom

Members present: Glenn Beasley, Katherine Borish, Tim Markey (Chair), Samantha McGraw, Bob Mirales, Julia Woldorf (Council Liaison). **Absent:** Summer Bound, Pat Foster

1. No amendments to the agenda
2. Approve November minutes: Glenn made the motion, Katherine seconded, all were in favor.
3. EAC Priorities for 2025
 - a. Sustainable Landscaping: Bob is investigating a Lower Merion ordinance that regulates gas powered landscape equipment. The ordinance passed on 11/19 and is the first ban of gas leaf blowers in PA. It begins as a seasonal ban and moves to year round in 4 years. Bob will summarize the arguments for and against and we will consider this as a potential "model" ordinance.
 - b. Climate Action Plan (CAP): As of the date of this meeting we were planning to present the greenhouse gas inventory to Borough Council on 12/18. However, following the meeting the Penn State team uncovered some issues that necessitated a delay. New presentation date to Borough Council is 1/21. EAC will review the inventory and presentation prior to that.
 - c. Storm Sewer Decals: Nothing new to report, this project is ongoing. If anyone sees spots that need new decals, let Patrick know.
4. Borough Council Update
 - a. Borough Manager is negotiating with a new landscaper and EAC strongly insisted that the use of electric leaf blowers and trimmers be mandatory.
 - b. The Shade Tree Committee is developing an ordinance regulating bamboo plantings. The EAC fully supports the initiative and offers to help if needed.
 - c. Single Use Plastic Ban update: violators of the ordinance should be reported to the Borough Manager, who will contact them.
 - d. Summer is creating an educational presentation about our use of the Bowman's Wildflower grant and will present to Borough Council in January or February.
5. New Business
 - a. Glenn proposed that the EAC formally request the Borough Council write a letter to state legislators about supporting the RGGI (regional greenhouse gas initiative). Pennsylvania has recently dropped out of the coalition which may threaten any advances in this area. Katherine offered to assist Glenn in creating a draft letter for Council.
 - b. The EAC member terms for Glenn and Samantha expire the end of 2025. Both said they want to renew their membership and will follow up with Gina Tognini and Judy Musto.
6. Public Comment: None.
7. Next Newtown Borough EAC meeting will be Monday, January 12, 2025, 7:00 pm at the Council Chambers and via Zoom.
8. Motion to Adjourn: Tim made the motion to adjourn, and Glenn seconded with all in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

For the Council, Tim Markey