

Newtown Borough Environmental Advisory Council
August 10, 2026 Meeting Minutes DRAFT
Council Chambers 23 N. State St. Newtown PA 18940 and Zoom

Members Present: Glenn Beasley, Katherine Borish, Summer Bound, Tim Markey (Chair), Samantha McGraw, Bob Mirales, Julia Woldorf (Council Liaison)

Absent: Pat Foster

1. Amendments to the Agenda
 - a. None
2. Approve July Minutes
 - a. Bob made the motion to approve the minutes, Glenn seconded, and all were in favor. Samantha abstained.
3. EAC Priorities for 2026
 - a. Sustainable Landscaping Research – Bob will give a presentation at the council work session September 2, to demonstrate the noise and pollution impacts of gas-powered leaf blowers and the benefits of an ordinance to help mitigate them. He may borrow a gas-powered leaf blower and ask someone to use it during the presentation outside to demonstrate the impact. Bob will recirculate the materials he plans to present to the group. The group discussed potential ordinance restrictions on leaf blowers, with Bob planning to address common objections about individual freedom versus community welfare as part of his presentation.
 - i. There have not been any updates to Realty Landscaping's transition to electric lawn equipment.
 - b. Newtown Borough Climate Action Plan – Tim will be compiling resource links for files on the Borough website as well as exploring applying for a federal grant available for chargers. Tim and Julia will recirculate the article about these funds. Tim will meet with HARB to discuss the possibility of them lessening their restrictions to support energy efficiency home improvements.
 - c. Native Plants – No major updates. The planters outside Borough Hall unfortunately did not survive. The group discussed conducting interviews with successful native plant implementers, including a resident who lives on Lincoln Street and a professional landscaper.
4. Borough Council Update
 - a. New Borough Manager position has been posted.
 - b. The electric vehicle ordinance will be sent to the Council September work session.

- c. Time to start planning our 2027 budget. The group began considering how to spend down the current budget. Julia will check the remaining balance. Some ideas include a tri-fold brochure about native plants and giveaways on Market Day.
- 5. New Business
 - a. Discussed ways to improve the AI meeting minutes summary, such as people stating their name before they comment or making a motion to approve.
 - b. The Yardley EAC is exploring a bag ban and we are helping them compile resources.
 - c. Bucks County sent a mosquito fact sheet – EAC discussed ways to promote this to residents, such as posting information on the website.
- 6. Public Comment
 - a. None.
- 7. Confirm Next EAC Meeting - Monday, September 14, 2026 at 7:00pm
- 8. Motion to Adjourn
 - a. Glenn made the motion to adjourn, and Tim seconded with all in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

For the Council,

Samantha A. McGraw

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