

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-30

Ad-Hoc Environmental Advisory Committee (Ad-Hoc EAC)

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANBERRY, COUNTY OF BUTLER, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, ESTABLISHING AN AD-HOC ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL (EAC) FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEVELOPING A SET OF RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WITH REGARD TO ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS IN THE TOWNSHIP

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors recognize the importance of a healthy and sustainable environment for the enjoyment of the citizens of the Township; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors recognize the importance of citizens' private property rights and the use and enjoyment of their property; and,

WHEREAS, there generally exists a natural tension between the economic growth and environmental objectives of communities experiencing growth; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors is committed to creating a community with a healthy balance between economic growth and the preservation of natural resources, open space and the environment; and,

WHEREAS, the Cranberry Plan (CP) calls for the preservation and protection of open space, natural resources and environmentally sensitive areas including steep slopes and slide prone soils, floodplains, wetlands and stream corridors; and,

WHEREAS, Cranberry Township has continued to develop comprehensive strategies and programs to protect and preserve the environment including, waste reduction and recycling programs, water and energy conservation programs, air quality and alternative transportation programs, and natural resources and open space protection programs; and,

WHEREAS, in 2015 Cranberry Township was designated a "Certified Platinum Sustainable Community" by the Pennsylvania Municipal League and Sustainable Pittsburgh, one of only seven communities to have achieved this level certification in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; and,

WHEREAS, the Township land use regulations have already preserved over 2,700 acres (4.2 square miles) of open space, 18% of the Township's total land area; and,

WHEREAS, the Cranberry Plan sets a goal for an additional 2,700 acres of open space at buildout of the Township preserving 37% of the overall Township land area in open space (CP pg.89); and,

WHEREAS, in 2015 and 2018 the Board of Supervisors adopted ordinance changes for the enhanced protection and regulation of floodplains; and

WHEREAS, the Township has an aggressive goal to complete 6,000 feet of stream bank stabilization by 2023 as part of its MS4 plan and permit; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors recognizes the importance to continue to monitor, adjust and improve upon the Townships environmental programs and objectives; and,

WHEREAS, recent development review and approval activities in the Township have spurred concerns by residents regarding environmental practices and priorities, including a specific request to establish an Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC); and,

WHEREAS, it is a goal of the Cranberry Plan to have ongoing community engagement and outreach to further the exchange of information and foster community involvement (CP Goal 10); and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors believes the creation of an Ad-Hoc Environmental Advisory Committee may provide additional valuable insights, perspectives and recommendations with regard to environmental, natural resource and open space objectives and priorities in the Township; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors establishes an Ad-Hoc Environmental Advisory Committee under the following conditions:

1. The Ad-Hoc Environmental Advisory Committee shall consist of 7 (Seven) members to be appointed by the Board of Supervisors.
2. Members shall be residents of the Township.
3. Members shall serve in an advisory capacity and meet on an as needed basis to complete its assignment.
4. The Township Manager is directed to develop a list of recommended candidates to serve on this Ad-Hoc EAC and submit those recommendations to the Board of Supervisors within thirty (30) days of the Board's adoption of this Resolution.
5. The Township Manager is directed to identify a staff liaison to this Ad-Hoc EAC whom shall assist the Ad-Hoc EAC to perform its assignment according to the intent of this Resolution.

6. The Ad-Hoc EAC scope of review and recommendations shall focus on environmental, natural resource, open space programs and initiatives of the Township.
7. Recommendations of the Ad-Hoc EAC shall be consistent with the environmental, natural resource and open space recommendations of the Cranberry Plan including the Future Land Use plan and Preferred Growth Scenario.
8. The Ad-Hoc EAC shall submit their recommendations to the Board of Supervisors by January 31, 2020, following which the Ad-Hoc EAC shall no longer exist as an Ad-Hoc Committee of the Township, and acknowledging the appreciation of their work by the Board of Supervisors.

RESOLVED AND ENACTED this 2nd day of May, 2019.

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP OF CRANBERRY

Jerry A. Andree
Township Manager/Secretary

By: _____
Michael D. Manipole
Vice-Chairman, Board of Supervisors