
West Reading Environmental Advisory Council

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MEETING MINUTES

August 25, 2025

Members Present

Chairperson Patrick Kaag, Nicole Weik, Samantha Kaag, Bethany Bower, Jay Santo Domingo

Call to Order

Mr. Kaag called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Ms. Bower and seconded by Ms. Kaag to approve the minutes of May 28th, 2025. Motion Carried.

433 Penn Ave Environmental Update: Phase Two Complete

Mr. Kaag shared that 3 four thousand gallon oil tanks and 80 feet of pipping has been removed from the 433 Penn Ave location. He also shared that the soil samples came back clean and a ton of remediation is not needed. Mr. Kaag also stated that testing of the service station area will take place next. Mr. Domingo asked if the plan is to knock down the service station building. Ms. Kaag stated that this has not yet been decided.

Fall Free Market: 9/28

Mr. Kaag stated that the free market will take place on Sunday September 28th from 10am-2pm at the pavilion. Mr. Kaag asked if a volunteer would be able to monitor the free market. Ms. Bower and Mr. Domingo both stated that they would be interested in monitoring and cleaning up after the free market.

Fall Borough Cleanup: 9/21

Mr. Kaag shared that the fall borough clean up will take place on Sunday September 21st from 10am-2pm at the pavilion. He stated that trash bags and other items used for the cleanup will be left at the pavilion for people to grab throughout the cleanup. Mr. Kaag mentioned that one area that will be focused on is near the fishing dock. Mr. Kaag stated that people have been dumping lots of household trash in that area. Mr. Domingo suggested that some trash cans that are not removable be added to that area. Ms. Kaag suggested reaching out to the Reading EAC to join in cleaning up the fishing dock area. She mentioned that since the clover field has been a lot better maintained we won't need as many people to clean up that area.

M.O.R.E. Grant

Mr. Kaag stated that an Energy Audit was done on the borough hall, police station, bicentennial house and fire department. The audit allows the borough to see where we can improve when it comes to power usage. Mr. Kaag stated that this will help the borough get more and possibly bigger grants to help make improvements.

AI Data Centers

Mr. Kaag shared that AI data centers are showing up in municipalities. He stated that this would use up a ton of energy and water. He asked if anyone on the EAC can try to find wording that other PA municipalities are using for AI data centers in their zoning.

Monthly MS4

Mr. Kaag mentioned that algae blooms are happening due to chemical run offs in a lot of areas around the country. He

suggested that we look into educating the borough residents on what type of chemicals to avoid that could go into our creeks.

Global Update

Mr. Kaag shared the United Nations tried to pass an agreement to end plastic production but it failed.

Final comments

Ms. Bower asked if at the next EAC meeting we can discuss the trash cans on Penn Ave. She mentioned that some of the trash cans are being overfilled or that some items can't fit into the holes on the top of the can.

Adjournment

Moved by Ms. Kaag and seconded by Mr. Domingo to adjourn the meeting at 6:31p.m. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Weik

EAC Member