

**Salisbury Township
Environmental Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 19, 2010**

A Public Meeting was held on the above date at the Salisbury Township Municipal Building located at 2900 South Pike Avenue, Allentown, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania. The meeting was brought to order at 7:00 P.M. Committee members in attendance: Jane Benning, Glenn Miller, Joseph Hebelka, Planning Commission Representative and Cynthia Sopka, Secretary to the EAC and Randy Soriano, Township Manager (late). Richard Niesenbaum, Bruce Burchard, Louis Cinquino, and Commissioner James Brown provided notice they would not be present. Special Task Force members in attendance: Joanne Ackerman; Samantha Dorney, Glenn Minnick and Sandra Thomas were not present.

Ms. Sopka called the meeting to order at 7:08 P.M.

Ms. Sopka announced that all sessions of the Salisbury Township Environmental Advisory Council regular meetings are electronically recorded as required by the By-laws and for the purpose of taking the Minutes.

Minutes – 4/21/2010

Ms. Sopka stated that since there is no quorum they are unable to take action regarding the April 21, 2010 minutes.

Motion was made by Mrs. Benning to table the April 21, 2010 Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes until the scheduled June 2010 meeting.

Report of Officers and Committees (including BOC, PC, Manager and/or Planning/Zoning)

Ms. Sopka highlighted the Zoning and Planning Meetings for the month.

The Zoning Meeting had two items on the Agenda. (1) An appeal for a Dimensional Variance was tabled because more information was required for **1764 Virginia Avenue**. They are proposing to construct a roof and porch five feet into the required 25-foot front yard setback. (2) An appeal for a Dimension Variance was approved for **1711 Linda Lane** proposing the construction of a 356 S.F. addition which will encroach 13 feet into the rear yard setback.

The Planning Meeting had two items on the Agenda. (1) The **Re-Subdivision for 833 Yorkshire Road** was approved to correct the lot line adjustment. (2) The Final Land Development Plan for **Uhl Major Subdivision located at 3109 Birchwood Drive** was tabled until July 31, 2010 for residential lots.

Old Business

Ms. Sopka provided an update on the **Tree and Shrub Seedling** project. She stated she had communication with Mr. Hassick and he advised her of the proper care of the seedlings until a date could be set for planting. Mr. Hassick recommended that the seedlings be planted in the fall.

Ms. Sopka stated that according to Mr. Minnich, a cleanup was conducted around the pump station on May 1, 2010. He had a group of children from Juvenile Probation Services assist with the cleanup from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The support letter to the Board of Commissioners was submitted.

Report of participation in cleanup programs. Mr. Hebelka participated in the Emmaus and Upper Milford Cleanup. He advised the EAC members of the turn out and will get a more detailed report. He stated that he spoke with the organizers from the Municipalities and they explained the process of how the participants receive special insurance coverage for the day of the scheduled cleanup. Mr. Hebelka also noted that he spoke with a gentleman from the railroad and he was advised to contact them directly as they are very supportive of cleanups.

New Business

Update on the NRI. Ms. Sopka stated that she has a map for EAC review and request that they make notation of any locations of any parcels worthy of inventory. Mr. Cinquino did provide an update copy on the NRI. He stated that in regard to the overall project to date, the LCCD has prepared the reaches and mapping for the Trout Creek visual assessment. They located and mapped:

1. 16 springs with the GPS unit
2. Tracked 8 unmapped headwater streams
3. Cataloged vegetation on 11 tax parcels
4. Identified a vernal pool providing spotted salamanders habitat with a DCNR Naturalist.

The team is set May 26-28, 2010 to scour the Township with a DCNR Naturalist. Once the property access letters have been sent to the landowners, the team will be assessing Trout Creek in June 2010.

Ms. Erin Frederick, from the LCCD, requested that one or more EAC member's join their specialist in the field for the Trout Creek visual assessments. The EAC member(s) will be trained and will be a valuable tool to help identify potential restoration projects. Mr. Cinquino volunteered to participate. Mr. Hebelka did offer his interest. Ms. Sopka stated that she has provided this information to Mr. Soriano for review and to address the Board of Commissioners.

The LCCD is proposing to hold a public meeting on June 16, 2010 during the scheduled EAC meeting. This information could be incorporated into their property access letters and invite these homeowners along Trout Creek to attend the meeting. Mr. Hebelka inquired about advertising on the Township website, with the School Districts and/or the Salisbury Press. Mr. Hebelka did inquire if the field work would be scheduled after the June 16th meeting. Discussion continued in regards to forms, documents, and the possibility of getting any interested high school student(s) involved with the field work, visual assessment, etc. This would be a great educational tool for any student.

Discussion continued regarding the Walking Purchase Park Cleanup. Many organizations and individuals are coordinating a major effort that may take one to two years. Ms. Sopka stated that

the cleanup is extensive and it incorporates a large portion of the park area. Together Lehigh County and the Township visited the site. The first phase was identified along Constitution Drive because there are enormous amounts of debris being dumped in this area. They are anticipating the first portion of the clean up to be on June 26, 2010.

The second phase will occur in the fall months along Riverside Drive (the riverbank to inland). The Canoe Club identified tremendous amounts of debris including large appliances that have been dumped over the embankment. Mr. Jack Boto, representative for Norfolk Southern, is in communication with Virginia Savage are negotiating and working together in regards to the cleanup and giving right of entry.

Ms. Sopka stated that the walk through at Franko Park to evaluate the parcel deeded to the Township is placed on hold.

Ms. Sopka addressed the Stormwater impacts within the Saucon Creek Watershed, Act 167 requirements. She recently attended a meeting and they are in the process of doing the Module Ordinance for the Saucon Creek Management Plan. Mr. Hebelka offered explanation of the Act 167 Stormwater Management Plans that primarily deal with stormwater quantity volume issues and water quality issues. Ms. Sopka stated that the funding for the project has been shortened and they must have it finalized before the end of June 2010. Therefore, they are asking surrounding Township's and participants for this project if they are aware of any drainage issues and if so, to identify the location(s), problem and possible proposed solutions.

Ms. Sopka highlighted upcoming conference(s) and campaigns.

1. **2010 Sustainable Energy Conference held July 14 through July 16, 2010 at Lehigh University. Please visit <http://www.theseef.org/WhyAttend/tabid/176/Default.aspx> for more information.**
2. **There is a campaign to save our Pennsylvania forest from extensive natural gas drilling. Please visit <http://www.facebook.com/SavePAForests>, and additional information can be found on <http://blog.conserveland.org/2010/05/12/land-in-transition-bradford-countys-lesson-to-the-upper-delaware/>.**

Mr. Miller gave an update on Recycling. He stated that Lehigh County is considering a countrywide event and received a contact name of Daniel McNeil.

Mr. Miller also advised that according to a newspaper article dated May 18, 2010, the PADEP finalized regulations for Erosion & Sedimentation Control, Chapter 102, which the Environmental Quality Control Board approved and should go into affected as early as September 2010. Mr. Hebelka offered to email a link in regard to this to provide more information.

Public Comments

None

Agenda for Next Meeting

Adjournment

On a motion by Mrs. Benning, seconded by Mr. Miller, the meeting was adjourned. All in favor.