

**Salisbury Township  
Environmental Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
September 15, 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: Bruce Burchard, Louis Cinquino, Jane Benning, Joseph Hebelka, Planning Commission Representative, Commissioner James Brown and Cynthia Sopka, Secretary to the EAC. Randy Soriano, Township Manager, Richard Niesenbaum (excused) and Glenn Miller (excused) were not present. Special Task Force members in attendance: Joanne Ackerman. Glenn Minnick, Samantha Dorney and Sandra Thomas were not present.

Mr. Burchard called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Mr. Burchard 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 – 08/18/2010**

Motion was made by Mrs. Benning, seconded by Mr. Cinquino, to approve the August 18, 2010 Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes. All in favor.

**Report of officers and committees (including BOC, PC, Manager and /or Planning/Zoning:**

Commissioner Brown stated that he will be stepping down as the liaison for the Board of Commissioners and the EAC and Commissioner Ackerman will assume this position. He stated that he has worked with the EAC for over a year and expressed his thankfulness for being part of the committee and the knowledge he has learned.

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

The Zoning Meeting of September 7th consisted of: (1) a variance for 637 E. Paoli Street had a non-conforming lot and placed a hot tub in the front yard. A minimal amount of relief was afforded with a required installation for a privacy fence that is not located in the 25 foot front yard setback; (2) Lehigh Valley Hospital at 1200 S. Cedar Crest Blvd. signage request was rescheduled for October 5, 2010.

The Planning Commission meeting of September 14, 2010 consisted of: (1) Comprehensive Plan Update; and (2) Re-subdivision of 833 Yorkshire Road which was previously approved in May but returned to re-subdivide from 3 parcels into 2.

**Old Business**

**Interviews relative to the NRI by LCCD-** Mrs. Benning offered her interview information. Mr. Hebelka stated that the interview process with a resident that's backyard property abuts

Trout Creek. A small discussion took place and other members are in the process of interviewing.

Conversation continued about the NRI, habitat restoration and invasive species. Ms. Sopka stated that there is a grant for the removal of invasive species according to LCCD. It was also discussed that if the EAC gets involved with projects of habitat restoration or invasive species, that the Recreation Committee should be incorporated.

**Tree Planting Program-** Ms. Sopka advised that there are only a few seedlings that have survived. Mr. Hebelka stated that there are guidelines to follow; therefore, you must follow through on the projects. Ms. Sopka stated that Mr. Minnick and volunteers did plant some of the seedlings in an area near the pumping station at Walking Purchase Park.

### **New Business**

If any person is aware of historical changes within Salisbury Township and available for an interview, please contact Cynthia Sopka.

Comprehensive Plan Updates are presented to the Planning Commission at regular scheduled meetings but will be appropriately advertised.

There has been communication with Abigail Pattishall, Director of Rivers with Wildlands Conservancy, to coordinate and conduct education workshops on various issues with our EAC, and asked to if there are any subjects they would like to address. Ms. Benning stated that she would like to see the value of trees addressed.

Ms. Sopka stated that there are some grants to conduct education workshops and was recently involved in a “Growing Green Grant” to benefit the City of Allentown’s area of Trout Creek.

Mr. Burchard inquired about advertising to the public and with the schools. Ms. Sopka stated with the permission of the Board of Commissioners, she would like to establish communication with the new school superintendent for future educational programs.

**Walking Purchase Park Phase II Cleanup** is scheduled for November 13, 2010 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Volunteers are needed, donors will be helpful. Ms. Sopka stated that this phase is the big clean up because it is in different locations along Riverside Drive and Constitution Drive.

There are many individuals, committees and organization that are going to be involved, and are estimating 10 teams of 5 or 6 individuals to target specific areas.

**Status of Task Force Members-** Ms. Sopka stated that she will contact these members to see if they would like to continue with the EAC.

Invite Dan Poresky of Allentown EAC regarding addressing common concerns, issues and resolutions. Ms. Sopka stated that he and the additional members of his EAC are very interested in South Mountain and Lehigh Mountain. She has communication with them and is part of their link group, and receives much information from them. Mr. Hebelka stated that the Allentown EAC did sponsor the walk along Cedar Creek Event that concentrated on riparian buffers and the health water quality of Cedar Creek.

Reminder regarding the **Hazardous Waste Collection** is scheduled for 9/25/2010, pre-registration is required. Mr. Burchard offered that most smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors have a minor radioactive isotope in them and should be disposed of as hazardous waste.

Mr. Hebelka spoke of **The National Take-Back Prescription Drug Return**, which is state wide, will be available for drop off with the Salisbury Township Police. It provides the public to dispose of expired, unwanted or unused medicines (instead of flushing) properly; therefore, not contaminating streams, groundwater and drinking water supplies. He stated that the flushed drugs are being detected in fish tissues, amphibians, etc.

Ms. Sopka advised the EAC that Plainfield Township in Northampton County is very involved in farmland preservation. Ms. Sopka encouraged the EAC to evaluate and review their website for suggestions.

**Comprehensive Plan meeting update** – URDC provided a document highlighting areas that will be addressed in the comprehensive plan for some goals, objectives and recommendations that Planning Commission may have. Mr. Hebelka stated the last plan update was 1992 and would the goals of yesteryear be viewed as a priority now. Ms. Sopka stated that once the electronic document was received, it would be sent to both the PC as well as the EAC members for their suggestions.

#### **Public Comments**

Mrs. Jill Stanley of 2741 S. Pike Avenue attended to express her concerns and protection about the stream that travels behind hers and Mr. McAuliffe's property and enters into Trout Creek because there are run off and erosion issues. Mrs. Stanley provided pictures of the stream then and now, and the pond that is being polluted. Ms. Sopka advised that she will look into this.

#### **Agenda for Next Meeting**

Comprehensive Plan meeting update

#### **Adjournment**

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