

**Salisbury Township
Environmental Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2011**

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: Glenn Miller, Mary Ann Stinner, Bruce Burchard, Commissioner Joanne Ackerman, Joseph Hebelka, Planning Commission Representative and Cynthia Sopka, Secretary to the EAC. Louis Cinquino, Jane Benning and Randy Soriano, Township Manager (excused) were not present. Special Task Force members in attendance: Sandra Thomas. Glenn Minnick and Samantha Dorney (excused) were not present.

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

Mr. Miller 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 – 09/21/2011

Motion was made by Mr. Burchard, seconded by Mrs. Stinner, to approve the September 21, 2011 Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes as submitted. All in favor.

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

Ms. Sopka highlighted the Zoning, Planning and Board of Commissioners Meetings for the month.

Old Business

Ms. Sopka stated that she completed almost all of the **Audubon Pennsylvania Bird Town** application; however, additional information is needed. The application was electronically shared with each member requesting their input. Ms. Sopka stated that if the EAC would like to move forward with this program it needs to be presented to the Board of Commissioners for approval because it requires financial support. The presentation will advise the Board of Commissioners the program benefits, the sense of community and it allows the township to become part of a partnership with participating adjacent municipalities.

Mr. Hebelka stated that to become a **Bird Town** there are requirements that the township must follow, for example, presence and promotion of a bird town festival, regional festival or stand alone, etc.

New Business

The Board of Commissioners formally adopted the **Natural Resource Inventory (NRI)** on October 13, 2011. The Executive Summary was included in the document and presented. Mr. Miller thanked the EAC for all their participation with the NRI.

Mr. Miller stated that he sent a **Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)** template to Mr. Burchard for his review. Discussion ensued on SOP creation. Mr. Hebelka suggested checking other municipality websites formats to use as a guide.

Mr. Miller stated that there is an **e-cycling event** being held in Walnutport on November 15 and 19th. This event is open to the public if anyone is interested in attending.

Mr. Miller suggested a **battery recycling program**. He stated that in January 2011 the Covered Devices Recovery Act Law became in effect. This law states that it is illegal to dump electronic devices into Pennsylvania landfills. Mr. Burchard stated that this would also be a good topic for the new webpage.

The EAC discussed **planning for future projects**. Mrs. Stinner would like to conduct a **plant swap** at Franko farm in the spring. Mrs. Stinner also stated that she has been in contact with Ms. **Lisa** Adams at Lehigh County Authority who will help assist her for the next future **rain barrel** workshop.

Mr. Hebelka inquired about the localized **clean-up events**. Ms. Sopka stated the Walking Purchase Park grant has been applied for and awaiting a response. She believes that this grant can include Arbor Day and the Tree and Shrub seedling project. Ms. Sopka suggested recognizing Arbor Day with the plant swap project and a tree planting. Mr. Burchard also suggested a composting workshop at Franko Park following a small tree planting of 4 or 5 trees. These projects get the community involved and utilize the township parks. The EAC will plan for an **Arbor Day Event**.

The members discussed memorial trees in honor of a loved one. Ms. Sopka advised that the township does have memorial trees at Franko Park. Mr. Burchard inquired if planting could be done in the different parks. Ms. Sopka stated that the EAC would have to work and discuss this project with the Recreation Advisory Council. Ms. Sopka inquired if the EAC would like to coordinate a planting. Commissioner Ackerman will gather the information and present at the next EAC meeting.

PA DEP Grant is an Environmental Education Grant and the submission deadline is December 16, 2011. Ms. Sopka will forward the link for review. She stated that the educational grant focuses on municipalities and school districts. She suggested the EAC partner with the school district. She asked the members to review and provide feedbacks.

The EAC concluded with the STEAC website. Ms. Sopka stated that she would start the process of the web page on Facebook.

Public Comments

None

Agenda for Next Meeting

Arbor Day Event
PA DEP Grant
STEAC website

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Miller the meeting was adjourned. All in favor.