

**Salisbury Township
Environmental Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 15, 2015**

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: Kreg Ulery, Glenn Miller, Jane Benning, Mary Anne Stinner, Karen El Chaar, Joseph Hebelka, Commissioner Joanne Ackerman, BOC liaison, and Cynthia Sopka, Secretary to the EAC. Task Force member: Robert Agonis. Katherine Velekei was not present (excuse).

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

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

Minutes – 03/18/2015

On motion of Mrs. Benning, seconded by Mrs. Stinner, the Environmental Advisory Committee approved the March 18, 2015 meeting minutes as amended. 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 of March. The Zoning Hearing Board reviewed variance and special exception for 950 South Ott Street, Western Salisbury Volunteer Fire Department. The Planning Commission (PC) reviewed a Conditional Use located at 3300 Lehigh Street South Mall for Keystone Novelties Distributors (Firework Sales) was approved for one year. The review of a Minor Subdivision located at 939 East Rock Road to incorporate 11,119.21 square feet of land from 937 East Rock Road then conveyed into 939 East Rock Road was approved. The review of a Minor Lot Subdivision located at 1211 Salisbury Road which is located in the R4 medium density residential district was tabled.

Old Business

New Business

Municipal Storm Sewer System (MS4) and STEAC involvement.

The EAC discussed the MS4 public participation and education program. Mr. Ulery provided a MS4 worksheet that needs to be completed for public education and involvement. The deadline for completion is listed as Wednesday, April 8th, 2015. This worksheet should be submitted to Mr. Ulery.

The EAC reviewed the worksheet together. Mr. Ulery stated that his worksheet is to help guide them in preparing and creating their plan.

The EAC discussed the ability to update the website to link to the MS4 and its educational component. To also reaching out for participation from residents, the township school district, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts participation, etc.

A MS4 flyer/brochure was discussed for residents and possibly a specific one that will target only businesses.

Ms. Laura Hopek, Watershed Coordinator from the Lehigh County Conservation District will provide guidance and presentation to include rain gardens and environmental education opportunities that support the MS4 projects.

Ms. Hopek stated that she reviewed the planting plans and had a few comments for the **Salisbury Township Storm Water Basin Retrofit**. She stated that on the plan there is some color but most of the plantings are white. She also inquired if there was river rock within the bottom of the basin. Mr. Hebelka reviewed the basin and advised there is a slight concrete extension on the front and seems fairly secure, connected into the storm water system. There is a fair amount of road wash (cinders & gravel) two three feet of where it discharges. The outlet structure is more like a "wall". There is underground piping for discharge which they believe exits on the site of the road.

The anticipated work on the Salisbury Township Storm Water Basin Retrofit is upcoming but based on permitting weather. Ms. Hopek recommended starting the basin in the late summer when it the weather is "dry" and move into planting in the fall. Once digging is started on the basin it must be completed all in one. It cannot be prepped and cleaned out and left bare. The Township can start with cleaning out the cinders, etc.

The EAC received a Growing Greener Grant which expires in 2016. Ms. Sopka advised that activity needs to be started. She met with Mr. Andreas, Director of Public Works, to address some preliminary work which includes the removal of diseased trees, removal and securing the cattails for later planting, removal of gravel and soils that were deposited into the basin, and the removal and destruction of invasive plants. It was discussed on what type of tools and heavy equipment that will be made available.

Ms. Sopka advised that they would like to fabricate a habitat. Ms. Hopek advised that Ms. El Chaar is very good with the plantings of different colors through the change of the seasons. Mr. Ulery stated that they will inquire with Ms. El Chaar and asked her to review the planting list. The EAC even considered a little walking path through the basin.

The EAC also discussed signage and placement, showing project is dedicated to the Grower Green Grant. The signage must be sustainable to all weather conditions.

Preparation for the **Clean-up of Walking Purchase Park** is scheduled for April 26, 2015. Ms. Sopka advised that a flier has been prepared. The Township has secured the upper parking lot of the Fearless Fire Company to park cars and then get taxied to the work sites.

Mr. Ulery stated that he will be taking pictures to have a photographic record and will share with other volunteers/companies that would like to see them. This information will also be placed on the STEAC webpage. This data needs to be filed for record.

Ms. Sopka, along with Mr. Nicolo and Mr. Agonis, tagged sites along Constitution Drive where litter has been distributed. The complexity is most of the debris has worked its way to the base of the mountain which is near the rail lines.

It is also noted that a day needs to be scheduled to evaluate the debris along Riverside Drive and the debris that has been dumped toward the Lehigh River.

It is also needed to assess the number of dumpsters that will be available and where they will be placed. There is a tremendous amount of electronics dumped on Constitution drive and it needs to be evaluated as to who will assume the appropriate disposal of these electronics since they are not allowed in the traditional garbage stream.

There has been a decline in street trees over the past several years. One reason is due to improper planting. As a means of offset to this loss, it is requested that the EAC consider utilizing a grant from Tree Vitalize to remediate loss. <http://www.treevitalize.net/index.aspx>

Additional Information

Public Comments

Agenda for Next Meeting

Salisbury Township Municipality detention basin retrofit project.

Adjournment

The EAC the meeting was adjourned. All in favor.