

**Salisbury Township
Environmental Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2016**

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, Rodney Conn, Jane Benning (excused), Mary Anne Stinner, Karen El Chaar, Commissioner Joanne Ackerman, BOC liaison, and Cynthia Sopka, Secretary to the EAC and Task Force members Robert Agonis and Katherine Velekei.

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

Approval of the Minutes

On motion of Mrs. Stinner, seconded by Mr. Conn, the Environmental Advisory Committee approved the August 17, 2016 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 of May 2016.

The Zoning Hearing Board had an Appeal from 2775 Honeysuckle Road regarding non-conforming lot, setbacks, impervious coverage and building lot coverage resulted in special exception and variance requests. The project was continued through to October 4th and was approved.

The Planning Commissioners advertised a public meeting to address the proposed zoning amendments. There were no residents or other interested parties in attendance. The Planning Commission closed the public meeting and continued with their regularly scheduled meeting regarding a minor lot re-subdivision plan between two property owners located at 2907 Edgemont Drive and 2915 Edgemont Drive. The plan was approved. The other plan presented was 3111 Lehigh Street for the proposed Dunkin Brands Inc. The plan received approval from the Planning Commission and will proceed to present at the Board of Commissioners meeting.

The Board of Commissioners meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Old Business

Ms. Sopka reviewed the Stormwater detention basin status. The Department of Public works assisted with the excavation of the basin that was primary for the project to proceed. Our status is as such:

We have communicated with Godshall's seeding and landscaping for the required matting necessary for erosion control. The matting was ordered and we are hoping for the work to

proceed once scheduled by Godshall's. Ms. Sopka stated that if the weather is clear this upcoming Friday, 10/21/16, Godshall's will come to install the matting.

Ms. Sopka stated that she has met with Edge of the Woods and purchased a variety of plants for the basin. She also obtained plantings from Sugarbush Nursery and we are waiting for the opportunity to start planting. At this time, some clean up needs to be done in the basin with the assistance of the Public Works Department. Once that is done the matting can be installed.

We still need the Department of Public works to place macadam over the walking path that leads to the ADA sitting area.

Ms. Sopka also ordered some native plant seeds to be spread along the sloped area which are specific for Stormwater basins. However the seeds need to have a direct connection to the soils. Once the seeds are spread, it will be necessary to have the matting placed on top of the seeds.

Ms. Sopka spoke with Erin Frederick from the Penn State Extension office to see if there would be any volunteers to help us with the planting. She indicated if there is a scheduled date to let her know immediately and will get the Masterwatershed's stewards or some of the Master Gardener's involved. However, if we can't get their assistance we will need to see if any college students would be willing to help however we must be sure the proper plants are located in the appropriate zones, i.e. wet, moist, mid zone on the slopes, and dry at the top of the slopes.

Ms. Sopka spoke with Mr. Andreas, Director of Public Works, and stated that once the matting is in place they can prepare the sites where trees will be placed.

New Business

The EAC will continue to have the opportunity for the public to discuss **storm water issues (MS4)**. Ms. Sopka stated that this will be listed as new business each month as well as provide a format to allow residents to voice their concerns or impacts from storm water issues as well as provide a venue to document their complaints or concerns. Please contact Mr. Nicolo, MS4 Coordinator, with any questions or concerns at 610-797-4000.

Ms. Sopka stated that she and Ms. El Chaar have been discussing a MS4 grant project. The EAC, in conjunction with the Friends of Allentown Parks, planned on partnering on the PA DEP 2017 Environmental Education Grant that was applied for. The stated afforded an educational grant for MS4 projects and stormwater management projects. The grant is for \$3,000 and does not require a match and it covers the cost of the Enviroscape and carrying case. This is very specific for educating students, civic groups, neighborhoods, and community parks which shows the impact of storm water.

Ms. Sopka has been researching and identifying sources on the **Low Impact Development (LID)** in accordance to the requirement provided by Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP). She stated that this information will need to be incorporated into the SALDO. This is a work in progress.

Mr. Agonis addressed the **illegal dumping** in the Township. Mr. Ulery and Ms. El Chaar have been working together to utilize a power point presentation to share with the Salisbury Township Board of Commissioners. He stated he is now comfortable with the presentation and would like to bring this before the Board of Commissioners in January or February of 2017.

Salisbury Township does not have a dumping Ordinance; there is little/no enforcement of the existing nominal \$300 littering fine, and many electronic recyclables and hazardous waste items require a recycling fee.

Ms. El Chaar stated that Friends of Allentown Parks suggested putting in rumble strips at the park entrance on the Allentown side to the City of Allentown and Lehigh County. They are interested in assisting but will need the help of their public works department.

Birdtown signs were disuccsed. It was stated that once the parks are complete these signs would be posted in the parks. Ms. Sopka stated that once the stormwater basin is completed a Birdtown sign will also be placed there. Mr. Agonis believes that a sign can be placed in Franko Park at this time.

Announcements

Public Comments

Ms. Jill Stanley, resident offered concerns and complaints about trimming being done on her property. Mrs. Ackerman stated that PPL has been trimming around that area. Ms. Stanley stated that PPL is now going to be placing power lines and she stated they will now be clear cutting around and on her property for this placement. She expressed her concern about the cutting which will remove the bird habitat. Ms. Sopka stated that PPL has a protocol that they follow and unfortunately it is federal mandated.

Adjournment

On motion by Mr. Ulery, seconded by Mr. Conn, the EAC meeting was adjourned. All in favor.