

**Salisbury Township
Environmental Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 18, 2017**

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

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. Benning, seconded by Mr. Conn, the Environmental Advisory Committee approved the November 16, 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 December 2016. A minor lot subdivision for 1531 Seidersville Road was submitted.

The Zoning Hearing Board had no appeals.

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

Old Business

The STEAC in conjunction with the Friends of Allentown Parks partnered on a grant from Pennsylvania DEP regarding **2017 Environmental Education Grant**. The traditional mini-grant of up to \$3,000.00 will be available and would not require a match. The intent of the grant is to acquire the Enviroscope and supportive carrying case as it pertains to Stormwater impacts. The grant has been submitted. Awarded projects may begin on or after July 1, 2017.

Ms. Sopka did advised that if by chance the grant would not be received; it has been put in the 2017 budget to cover the cost of the **Enviroscope** and carrying case. This is very specific for educating students, civic groups, neighborhoods, and community parks which shows the impact of storm water.

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.

The final report for the Stormwater detention basin retrofit has been completed and submitted to the PADEP for review.

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. The EAC needs to prepare and propose public education component for 2017 and address and present it to the MS4 Coordinator.

The first the item EAC needs to identify is specific goals and plans for the education component for the year 2017. Some of the goals would be community events and even incorporate surrounding communities, scout troops, attending events, e.g. Eastern Salisbury and Western Salisbury's fire companies community days, completing the stormwater basin project, habit for birds, water filtration, stormwater runoff and rain gardens. We also need volunteers such as, the boy/girl scouts, stormwater conservation district as they are professionals for the basins, the school district, and possible staff. They also discussed two educational MS4 events.

The issue of **illegal dumping** was discussed at the last meeting and finalization is to be completed and signed. The submission of the document will be entitled "Recommendations to Curb Illegal Dumping". Ms. Sopka inquired if the EAC is ready to present the signed document to the Board of Commissioners. Mr. Ulery stated that he would like to give the presentation mid-February 2017. He stated he has a 6 page slide and details on why illegal dumping needs to be addressed.

Ms. Sopka stated that she was and continues to work on the 2016 EAC Annual Report.

Announcements - None

Public Comments

Ms. Janet Keim, expressed concern regarding vehicle safety on I78 when traveling near Summit Lawn Exit. Ms. Sopka stated that this request should be made to the Chief of Police, as the township has no jurisdiction over vehicle traffic on I78. Mr. Ulery stated that the EAC is not even permitted to make a recommendation in regards to her request.

Mrs. Janiet Keim also expressed the concerned regrading the continued tree cutting that has been taking place most recently in the township. Ms. Sopka advised Mrs. Keim that unfortunately the township has no jurisdiction of how the utility companies take down the trees. Restrictive covenant and restrictions were discussed. Timber Harvest was discussed and the proper paperwork, harvester is used, including Ms. Sopka walks the perimeter of the sites.

Adjournment

On motion by Mrs. Stinner, seconded by Mrs. Benning, the EAC meeting was adjourned. All in favor.