

**ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**  
**DECEMBER 10, 2014**

The Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) met for its scheduled meeting on December 10, 2014 in the Upper Merion Township Building. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m., followed by a pledge of allegiance to the flag.

**ROLL CALL:**

The following members of the EAC were present: Chris Kaasmann, Vivian Peikin, Sandy Moskowitz, Sal Sonsino, Steven Burda, and Staff Liaison Janet Serfass.

The following members of the EAC were absent: Ed Campbell, and Board of Supervisors Liaison Greg Waks.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A motion was made to approve the minutes of 10/8/14 by Steven Burda, and seconded by Vivian Peikin. The motion passed unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Mr. Kaasmann reported that he had contacted the PADEP, Republic Services, and Bob Rudzinski (Upper Merion Township Property Maintenance Officer) in reference to trash haulers picking up recyclable materials such as leaves and yard waste. Mr. Rudzinski will follow up with additional haulers picking up waste in Upper Merion Township. The EAC members discussed the possibility of creating some educational materials referencing on-site leaf management and at-home composting to reduce the amount of individual household waste being produced.

Mr. Kaasmann also conducted further research regarding the excavation of concrete medians to create less impervious surfaces. It cost the Business Improvement District an approximate \$20,000.00 to excavate the median in front of the Container Store and, they incur an additional \$50,000.00 per year in cost for plant replacement, as well as weed and pest control on their already beautified areas. The Business Improvement District is unable to fund beautification of concrete medians outside of its defined area.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

An Upper Merion High School student contacted the Board of Supervisors in reference to taking a portion of funds raised from water sales at Nor View Farm to donate to third world countries to help build clean water infrastructures. A motion was made for the EAC not to support the donation by Vivian Peikin. The motion was seconded by Sandy Moskowitz, and all were in favor. A discussion was also held in reference to the idea of taking water from the farm to the Township Building, however, employees use large jugs and many bring their own reusable drinking containers for an already very low monthly cost.

Mr. Kaasmann made the following announcements; the Board of Community Assistance grant application period is open and the deadline is in March, the Septa Route 100 line is still being discussed and the EAC should make an effort to attend some of the meetings to address environmental concerns, and the Schuylkill West Trail is having a ribbon cutting on December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

The EAC members discussed asking the greenhouse at Nor View Farm to host a plant sale and donate some of the proceeds to the committee. This would also give the EAC an opportunity to educate the public as to what facilities are included at the farm. The members also discussed asking to be put on the county list of sites for electronics and household hazardous waste collection events.

**LIAISON'S COMMENTS:**

Ms. Serfass reminded the EAC that the January 11<sup>th</sup> meeting is the reorganization meeting, and that a quorum must be met. She also discussed meeting reminders and when an RSVP should be received by to establish quorum.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before this Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm.

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Chris Kaasmann, Chairman

Minutes Approved: 02/11/2015

Minutes Entered: 02/12/2015