ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2018 6:45 P.M.

The Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) met for its scheduled meeting on April 17, 2018 in the Upper Merion Township Building. The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ATTENDANCE:

ABSENT:

Zachary Davis, Chair Brittany Grala, Secretary Sal Sonsino Stacey Henderson Janet Serfass, Staff Liaison Greg Waks, Board Liaison Katherine Vaccaro

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Sal motioned to approve the January 16, 2018 meeting minutes. Brittany seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS:

BCA Grant:

The application for the BCA grant was submitted by the EAC. Greg explained that the committee is in the process of reviewing applications and the grant recipients will be announced at the May 17th Board of Supervisors meeting.

Yard Waste Composting:

The EAC will contact the Township's Public Information Officer regarding ways to educate the public about trash hauling and recycling in Upper Merion.

Proposed Solar Ordinance:

The EAC sent its comments to the Township's Planning Department regarding the solar ordinance's lack of regulating the onsite storage of electricity. Janet reported that the process of writing the ordinance is still ongoing, and that the EAC's commentary was received.

Community Garden:

The soil at the Community Garden is currently being tilled, and the well on the property has been located. Forms for the plot lottery are due to the Community Garden Board in the beginning of May. The EAC will reach out to see if they can provide any assistance related to the Community Garden project.

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Trout Creek:

Joe Brophy has reached out to both the Department of Environmental Protection and the Environmental Protection Agency regarding Trout Creek. The agencies are both currently investigating the reason the creek has stopped flowing.

NEW BUSINESS:

Earth Day Festival:

Zach will attend the Township's Earth Day Festival, and will raffle off a rain barrel as well as promote the Schuylkill Scrub Event. The Schuylkill Scrub will take place on May 19th from 10-12:30 at the Upper Merion Boathouse.

Joint Meeting with the Board of Supervisors:

Zach will work on the presentation to be made to the Board of Supervisors by the EAC on Thursday April 26th from 9-9:30 p.m.

2018 Projects and Initiatives:

The EAC discussed partnering with the Library Board to recruit high school seniors to help with environmental initiatives that will help with the community service requirement of their senior projects.

The EAC will reach out to RNG Energy regarding using waste from local restaurants to be converted into natural gas. The council would also like to create more educational materials about recycling.

STAFF LIAISON'S REPORT:

Janet explained that the King of Prussia Mall is hosting a mixer on April 24th from 4:30-6:30. To fulfill part of the Township's MS4 requirements for education and outreach, the mixer will include a discussion regarding restaurants and businesses disposing of oil and grease as well as mop waste.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS LIAISON'S REPORT:

Greg reported that the EAC currently has two vacancies, and asked that the current members encourage others to become part of the council.

ADJOURNMENT:

In response to Zach's inquiry, Stacy motioned to adjourn. Brittany seconded. All voted in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

	Zachary Davis, Chairperson
Minutes Approved: Minutes Entered:	

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