

**ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
NOVEMBER 15, 2016**

The Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) met for its scheduled meeting on November 15, 2016 in the Upper Merion Township Building. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ATTENDANCE:

John Weilnau, Chairman
Katherine Vaccaro, Secretary
Brittany Grala
Linda Castro
Janet Serfass, Staff Liaison
Dario Valent, area resident.

ABSENT:

Sal Sonsino
Christopher Kaasmann
Sandra Moskowitz
Greg Waks, Board Liaison

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

In response to John Weilnau's request, Brittany Grala motioned to approve the October 18, 2016 meeting minutes. Kate Vaccaro seconded. All voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

BCA Grant Extension – forwarded letter to Board of Community Assistance.

John will await the BCA's response and report on it at our next meeting.

The Weed Ordinance / Meadow updates:

John shared Ed O'Brien's statement that the Trout Run site may not be an ideal site because mosquitoes in that area tested positive for West Nile Virus.

John commented that a meadow should be more helpful with regard to stormwater management than regular grass, but may harbor mosquito breeding grounds in hidden water bottles.

John noted that Chris Kaasmann considers Volpi Commons as an ideal location.

Kate Vaccaro wondered if West Nile Virus incidents have been detected in other locations.

The Weed Ordinance/Meadow updates (Cont.):

Janet Serfass recommended that someone from the EAC contact the County Health Dept. to inquire about West Nile virus cases in Upper Merion Township. Also, contact the Park and Recreation Board; look at upcoming projects where a Best Management Practice could be installed; attend the Park and Recreation's Board's meetings and review their Minutes. Kate offered to look at some of the available Minutes.

Bottle Refilling Kiosks:

The American Water's website still shows 2016 grant details. Janet offered to check the water kiosks' meter readings at the Community Center. Brittany commented that a bottle refilling kiosk has been installed in Valley Forge Park.

Township Solar Panel Feasibility:

Sally Slook, Assistant Township Manager, applied for the Solsmart Community-designation program. She has not yet heard anything back.

Hazardous Household Waste Disposal Event:

Chris reached out to Dave Kraynik who will reach out to Kevin Reilly at Lockheed Martin.

Trash cans at bus stops – recycling issues in the township:

John contacted Bob Rudzinski but hasn't heard back. Janet noted that Bob might have been on vacation last week and suggested a follow-up.

NEW BUSINESS:

John commented that Chris attended the introductory meeting for the Comprehensive Plan's Steering Committee and that Chris' presentation on storm water management issues was well-received. The Comprehensive Plan meetings are expected to take place once a month for about a year.

John met a member of the Township Foundation who provided him with information about a Maryland municipality that has started rating buildings for efficiency. Kate offered to investigate the matter. John will distribute the information to members.

Mr. Dario Valent, a township resident and proprietor of the restaurant La Collina, expressed his interest in learning more about recycling on a local level.

LIAISONS COMMENTS:

Janet described recycling ordinances that apply to residences and businesses. She encouraged members to check the Township's website.

Janet read the details of Bob Rudzinski's report on what was collected at the most recent electronic recycling event:

- 841 lbs. of dehumidifiers.
- 2,300 lbs. of air conditioners.
- 11,000 lbs. of TV's.
- 7,200 lbs. of printer scanners.
- 840 lbs. of general household waste.
- 3,000 lbs. of PC towers or desk tops.
- 750 lbs. of wires.

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no additional business, the meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Katherine Vaccaro, Secretary
(for John Weilnau, Chairman)

Minutes Approved: 01/17/2017

Minutes Entered: 01/18/2017