

Salisbury Township Environmental Advisory Council
October 16, 2013

Order of Business

Call to Order

Roll Call

	P	N
• Glenn Miller, Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Kreg Ulery, Vice Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Jane Benning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Mary Anne Stinner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Sandra Thomas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Joseph Hebelka (PC Rep)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Joanne Ackerman, (BOC liaison)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Cynthia Sopka (Secretary)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Randy Soriano (Township Manager)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Robert Agonis (Task Force Member)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Notifications:

- a. *All public sessions of the Salisbury Township Environmental Advisory Committee regular meetings are electronically monitored (tape recorded) for the purpose of taking the Minutes. Public comment on agenda items will be entertained at the time the item is up for discussion; non-agenda related public comments will be entertained after the agenda*

Review September 18, 2013 minutes

Report of officers and committees

- Zoning: No appeals for October 2013
- Planning: August 2013 –2051 Bevin Drive “Legacy Place”
- Board of Commissioners Meet the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at 7:00.

Old Business

- 1- Continue to discuss and plan for the next earth day celebration of 2014.

New Business

- Mr. Agonis brought these concerns to the EAC at the September meeting. The EAC should provide some guidance regarding if the group is willing to embark on the task of street trees and their potential placement which would eliminate removal from the current right of way.
- Just to recap some of the information from last Agenda:
 - Consideration of shade/street trees being removed throughout the Township without necessary replanting. The recommendation presented to the EAC would be to involve the respective members and volunteers in a project of identifying where trees are missing and advocate for replacement.The Advocacy of the EAC could be the following:

1. Provide property owners with suggested/recommended replacement varieties of trees that correspond to those included in the (proposed new) zoning ordinance.
2. The EAC could do additional research regarding handling of situations where underground utilities limit or prohibit tree replacement.
3. The EAC would be able to continue to generally promote residential tree planting perhaps coupled with other groups to distribute/plant trees.

- **Visitation to the Goals and Objectives referenced in the Salisbury Township EAC Report of January 2013.**

We were afforded some guidance regarding funding for some of our goals. Now will be a great time to discuss which area we would like to focus if we are going to proceed with a project that will have a tremendous impact to the Township such as a coordinated project with the School District. Now is the time to decide.

1. Establish communication with the Salisbury Township School District to discuss potential environmental awareness projects on school property and/or involving students. One aspect of this project would be to coordinate improvements to the Trout Creek Stream, a suggestion afforded from the Natural Resource Inventory.
2. Continue environmental awareness efforts to educate Township Residents
3. To raise the profile of Salisbury Township as a critical ecosystem for the well-being of the Lehigh Valley, particularly related to wildlife habitat, air quality, water quality and our Watershed.

In consideration of the items referenced above, it would be important to prepare for attaining those goals which would require monetary resources and grant writing. Therefore I have invited a grant writer, Mr. Joe Hoffman, to the meeting who would be able to provide additional guidance regarding potential future grant opportunities.

In addition to the items referenced above, the Natural Resource Inventory provided various recommendations to pursue. The following is just a snapshot of the recommendations of the NRI, such as:

1. Removal of invasive plants and replacement with native plantings – a pilot project could be conducted in a Township Park such as Franko Farms.
2. Provide education to all forest landowners regarding the development of a Forest Stewardship Plan through Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (PA DCNR).
3. Work with the power companies and private landowners to remove invasive plants and create open meadow habitat along the power line easements.
4. Educate stream side property owners regarding the value of riparian buffer planting and restoration requirements for impaired streams.
5. Create a mailer to be sent out to targeted landowners on hillside and streamside properties where vernal pools are likely, describing their physical features and

functions. Landowners could be invited to contact the Township about their vernal pools and have them listed for future protection.

6. Contact landowners and provide information about the benefits of healthy riparian buffers and resources available to encourage their installation.
7. Provide mailing and educational sessions and provide instruction to landowners to take yard waste to the compost center rather than dump waste on the banks of Trout Creek.
8. Advocate for Salisbury Township to consider investing in a Township wide storm water retrofit plan which would examine all the area where presently uncontrolled runoff could be treated and infiltrated back into the ground or taken up by plants.
9. Carry out a stream-wide Japanese knotweed control program and contacting affected landowners with information on controlling the plant and strategies for removal and replanting.
10. Develop plans for stream bank stabilization projects and the planting of native riparian buffers on all the stream segments that rate as “fair” or “poor” in the NRI.