

**Salisbury Township
Environmental Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 17, 2013**

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: Glenn Miller, Mary Ann Stinner, Kreg Ulery, Commissioner Joanne Ackerman and Cynthia Sopka, Secretary to the EAC: (absent) Jane Benning, Joseph Hebelka Planning Commission Representative, Sandra Thomas, and Randy Soriano Township Manager.

Mr. Miller called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Mr. Miller announced that all sessions of the Salisbury Township Environmental Advisory Council regular meetings are electronically recorded as required by the By-laws and for the purpose of taking the Minutes.

Minutes – 03/20/2013

Motion was made by Mrs. Stinner, seconded by Mr. Ulery, to approve the March 20, 2013 Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes as amended. 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.

Old Business

New Business

Mr. Miller stated that since the last meeting he received a drafted letter from Urban Research Development Corporation (URDC) in regards to the funding for the “**Growing Green Grant**” which the Township is a part of for Lindberg Park. The grant is looking for funding to match the Township. The EAC will as a partner with the Township and use some of the EAC budget to help fund this grant. Mr. Miller stated that he did not see any reason not to approve it. These monies will be applied to the tree signage.

The members discussed the upcoming **Earth Day Celebration Event** on May 18, 2013 at Lindberg Park.

Mr. Ulery stated that he has been in communication with Mr. Brian Delphus of **Bird Town**. He confirmed that he will provide a Bird Town presentation and give an overview of what it is about. Mr. Ulery stated that he encouraged Mr. Delphus to bring a number of handouts and educational information.

Commission Ackerman advised everything is in place for recycling.

Mrs. Thomas (represented by Andy) will have a child activities and game table. She will be providing tablecloths.

Mrs. Stinner stated that Ms. Linda Sheftell, Master Gardener, from the Lehigh County Extension will be there and ready for her 10 a.m. presentation. Mrs. Stinner stated that handouts will be available. Commissioner Ackerman expressed her concern that there are no recycling bins in the parks. She stated that it is important to get recycling in the parks. She stated that she is going to work on getting bins in the parks and would like to present this to the Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Miller stated that he spoke with Tim Bollinger of Lehigh County in regards to **Household Hazardous Wastes**. Mr. Bollinger advised that Lehigh County stopped doing these household hazardous wastes collection days in 2010. There is a hotline phone number to call, but individuals are referred to two separate companies:

1. JW Environmental, Allentown, PA 610-782-9115
2. Elk Environmental, Reading, PA 610-372-4760

Fees do apply to discarding household hazardous wastes. The minimal fee is around \$300.

Mr. Miller stated there are other suggestions.

1. Discarding of tires can be taken to a tire service center, for example, Firestone. They will accept old tires for a nominal fee.
2. Propane tanks/cylinders are accepted for free at Trexler Haines in Kuhnsville.
3. FreeCycle, LLC accepts anything for free that has a plug except refrigerators.

Mr. Miller will have this information available at their Earth Day Event.

The member discussed holding the next regular scheduled EAC meeting at Lindberg Park. The members will walk through the park as preparation for the Earth Day Celebration. A notice will be sent out.

On motion of Mr. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Stinner, the EAC approved holding the next regular scheduled EAC Meeting, Wednesday, May 15, 2013, 7:00 p.m., at Lindberg Park, rain or shine. All in favor.

Ms. Sopka provided an update on the environmental zoning amendments. Ms. Sopka met with Mr. Charlie Schmehl of URDC. The EAC recommendations were reviewed. The Planning Commission agreed on the Site Capacity Analysis would have no minimum acreage.

Ms. Sopka provided an update on the Growing Green Grant for the retrofit of the storm water detention basin located on the campus of Salisbury Township. Ms. Sopka stated she did submit the application with their response of numerical discrepancies and recommendations that have been brought to her attention. Ms. Sopka made the necessary changes and it has been resubmitted. She is awaiting response. Once this submission is approved and received, the Township will await for the formal agreement to be put in place to proceed with the project.

Communication regarding tree clearing and cutting due to power lines was addressed by Ms. Sopka who has been receiving calls from surrounding municipalities and residents of the Township in regards to Pennsylvania Power Light (PPL) tree trimming program. The tree trimming is being done by Asplundh's Tree Maintenance who is under contract with PPL.

A woman, who attended the EAC meeting and did not want to be identified, stated that PPL is spending \$44 million on this tree trimming. They are requiring them to do a V-cut unlike the previously "donut-hole" like cut. This will affect runoff. They want zero outages from trees.

Ms. Sopka has been in communication with PPL. She requested a meeting with PPL representative and Asplundh. She stated that Asplundh are tree cutters and not tree management. The Township has requirements for tree cutting permits and fees. The trees are being cut at a very rapid, very fast pace. Her concern is that with the extreme cutting of the trees it could cause them to be unstable and die. She stated that they are cutting these trees the way the Township advises our residents not to. She advised that if PPL cut trees on private property and the tree dies, the property owners would be responsible to remove them.

Ms. Sopka stated that this will have to go before the Board of Commissioners. She is uncertain whether the municipality has any power over PPL's tree trimming decisions. She stated that she has the understanding that PPL wants a four year management plan program. The tree trimming will be staggered but as of now they are not finished with Salisbury Township. She would like this management plan for review.

Public Comments

None

Agenda for Next Meeting

Adjournment

On a motion by Kreg Ulery, seconded by MaryAnne Stinner, the meeting was adjourned. All in favor.