

**Salisbury Township
Environmental Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 16, 2012**

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: Mary Ann Stinner, Jane Benning, Kreg Ulery, Bruce Burchard, Joseph Hebelka, Planning Commission Representative; Commissioner Joanne Ackerman; Cynthia Sopka, Secretary to the EAC and Randy Soriano, Township Manager. Glenn Miller (excused) was not present. Special Task Force member: Sandra Thomas (excused) was not present.

Ms. Sopka called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Ms. Sopka 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 – 04/18/2012

Motion was made by Mrs. Benning, seconded by Mr. Burchard, to approve the April 18, 2012 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

The members reviewed and discussed the Audubon Pennsylvania Bird Town application. Mr. Hebelka stated that they could include that the western portion of the Township borders the City of Allentown's parkway system which is an educating birding area. Ms. Sopka will submit the completed application via email to each EAC member for review and finalization.

New Business

Mr. Richard Smith of **Green Star/Waste Management** provided a **presentation regarding educational initiatives to composting and recycling.**

Mr. Soriano provided brief information regarding the Township's contractual obligation with Waste Management, who collects Salisbury resident's trash and recyclables. Waste Management takes the single stream recyclables to Green Star which is processed and marketed under the three year agreement. Waste Management dictates the size of the recyclable containers.

Mr. Smith explained how the single stream recycling allows different recycling items to be mixed together. Green Star has a single stream system called the Material Recovery Facility. This system takes the recycling mixture and sorts and removes by commodity codes. It will remove metals and separate cardboard from the paper, etc. Once the mixture is sorted it compressed into a "bail" that can weigh up to 2,000 pounds. It is then remarketed and reused again in a different commodity.

Mr. Smith stated the bigger the recycling container, the more residents will recycle because of the space. If a small container is used, space becomes limited and unfortunately individuals have a habit of throwing the recycling in the trash. Mr. Smith stated that the landfill rates are very high but the rebates provided for recycling are cost saving. He also advised that there are possible grants to show how much recycling is done in a year. This is not only good for the environment, but is beneficial for the economics of the Township to properly educate its residents.

Mr. Smith also made the suggestion of providing visual educational information on the Township website. He believes that people, especially children, have a better understanding of what is trying to be accomplished when pictures are made available.

Discussion ensued regarding proper medical waste disposal, aerosol cans, hazardous waste, electrical, etc., and proper future education. Mr. Smith stated he would be available if any other questions or concerns arise.

The EAC members reviewed together and discussed the **legislation Senate Bill #1380** regarding riparian buffers and water quality impacts. Mr. Hebelka stated it is up for review with the environmental committee in Harrisburg and it will be quite some time for it to be secured; however, he would watch for updates.

Local Clean-Ups were discussed. Mr. Hebelka stated he attended both the Emmaus Clean-Up and the Walking Purchase Park Clean-Up. Mr. Hebelka stated both were a great success. The Walking Purchase Park Clean-Up consisted mostly on the Allentown side. The volunteers filled up at least one dumpster of debris.

Ms. Sopka discussed Walking Purchase Park and the areas of interest of surrounding groups that want to protect the Park. Ms. Sopka asked if the members would like to schedule a date to walk through the Park and possibly coordinate with the Mountain Bikers.

Mr. Hebelka stated that he did see the **Philadelphia clean water documentary program** that aired in April. He believes it was a very good documentary but somewhat outdated.

Ms. Sopka stated that the **Comprehensive Plan** has been proposed by the Planning Commission to move forward to the Board of Commissioners. It is in the 45 day review period which will end June 14, 2012. The most recent up to date draft plan will be posted on Salisbury Township's website in the near future. A public meeting will be schedule after the June 14, 2012 deadline.

Public Comments

A resident inquired about the contract with Waste Management. He stated that twice this month he and his wife witnessed the workers throwing the trash and recycling away together. He has contacted Waste Management regarding this matter.

Mr. Hebelka stated that on Thursday, July 19, 2012, 9 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., the Penn State Cooperative Extension is offering a Tree Ordinance Workshop for \$85.00.

Agenda for Next Meeting

Adjournment

Motion was made by Mrs. Benning, seconded by Mr. Burchard, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor.