

**Salisbury Township  
Environmental Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
July 21, 2010**

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: Louis Cinquino, Jane Benning, Glenn Miller, Commissioner James Brown, Joseph Hebelka, Planning Commission Representative and Cynthia Sopka, Secretary to the EAC. Bruce Burchard (excused), Richard Niesenbaum (excused) and Randy Soriano, Township Manager (excused) were not present. Special Task Force members in attendance: Joanne Ackerman. Glenn Minnick, Samantha Dorney and Sandra Thomas were not present.

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

Mr. Cinquino 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 – 6/16/2010**

Motion was made by Mr. Miller to approve the June 16, 2010 Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes. Motion seconded by Mrs. Benning. All in favor.

**Report of officers and committees (including BOC, PC, Manager and /or Planning/Zoning:**

Ms. Sopka highlighted the Zoning and Planning Meetings for the month.

The Zoning Meeting had three items on the Agenda. (1) An appeal for a Dimensional Variance was denied at **1318 Voortman Avenue** for placement of a shed in the front and side yard setbacks. (2) An appeal of the Zoning Officer's enforcement letter for placement of a front yard deck at 1769 New York Avenue was denied. They will be moving forward with a Variance. (3) An appeal for a Use Variance for tent sales at 2557 Green Acres Drive was approved.

The Planning Meeting had three items on the Agenda. (1) The Comprehensive Plan Kick-Off Meeting was conducted. (2) A Preliminary Minor Subdivision to subdivide the property at **432 E. Emmaus Avenue** into three parcels was approved. (3) Scott Chevrolet at **3333 Lehigh Street** withdrew the previous approved Plan, and resubmitted a new Plan that changes the location of 3600 sq. ft. service building from the back to the front of the building.

Ms. Sopka stated that the Board of Commissioners will hear two Land Development Plans on July 22, 2010. (1) Crossroad's Baptist Church at **1860 E. Emmaus Avenue** and (2) Bruce Uhl Major Subdivision at **3109 Birchwood Drive**. (Public participation is encouraged)

**Old / New Business**

**Natural Resource Inventory (NRI) Update.** Ms. Erin Frederick, from the LCCD, reported that she and Ms. Rebecca Kennedy did site visits to the Township Parks and recommendations will

be made. Ms. Frederick provided a presentation and aerial views of the parks. Ms. Frederick stated she would visit the parks with any/all EAC members, a date will be coordinated. Commissioner Brown stated that an Eagle Scout Project is being proposed to put a Butterfly Park at Franko Park. He believes that it would be beneficial if Ms. Frederick reviewed the area for suggestions of placement.

Ms. Sopka informed Ms. Frederick that there is a Township Recreational Advisory Committee and stated that they should be informed of particular projects. In that, they could be involved and/or assist with the knowledge they have and advise them of the LCCD's recommendations, and as a combined effort meet to discuss and decide which recommendations can be pursued.

Discussion continued about each park, which parks still need a site visit, and the natural features and habitats in each park. Mr. Cinquino inquired, with the School District's permission, if the School District's property could be visited and recommendations made. Mr. Cinquino stated that the reason being, it could prove to be an educational tool, as well as, help the improvement of the environment. Ms. Sopka stated that she would contact the School District and the Township's Department of Public Works.

Ms. Frederick requested a list of long term residents that would be helpful to interview regarding Township history. The EAC will gather this information and notes will be provided.

**Walking Purchase Park Phase I Cleanup and discussion for Phase II.** The cleanup and representation was a great success. There were about thirty six individuals that participated. A meeting will be conducted August 6, 2010 at 10 a.m. to prepare for the Phase II cleanup. It is in the planning stage because the riverside portion of Riverside Drive and Lehigh River will be incorporated. The cleanup is planned for either after the first frost or at the end of October/beginning of November.

Mr. Cinquino inquired about the seedlings. They are growing well. Ms. Dorney will be taking over the seedling project at this time. Further information will be provided.

Ms. Sopka gave a brief history of the Master Plan for Walking Purchase Park. She stated that the planners were CMX, who went out of business and did not finalize the plan. Fortunately, the County who is the funding entity along with DCNR stepped in, and with the Wildlands Conservancy has been involved in the previous writing; therefore, giving Wildlands Conservancy the task to finalize the Master Plan. Ms. Sopka stated that with the information gathered from all the different organizations including the Township, they finally have a final draft of Walking Purchase Park Master Plan. Before it can be finalized a public meeting is in order along with authorized signatures to approve the Plan.

Mr. Miller provided an **update on E-cycling**. He stated that he contacted Mr. Dan McNeil at Lehigh County and was advised that the event is on hold. Mr. Miller believes it is due to funding. Ms. Sopka advised that Upper Saucon Township has done this event and believes they would be willing to partner with us, to contact EAC member Mr. Tom Gettings.

Ms. Sopka advised that the **Lehigh Valley Trails Summit is scheduled for September 30 through October 1, 2010 at DeSales University**. The Wildlands Conservancy, DCNR and several other entities are involved to help educate planning for building, marketing and sustaining local trails. She believes that this would be beneficial pertaining to Walking Purchase Park.

Ms. Sopka stated that **Growing Greener** is taking applications. Mr. Hebelka stated that it will be very competitive because there are limited funds. It is a very involved process and he would not recommend that the EAC pursue it solo. The EAC should reach out to the Conservation District, Wildlands, etc. because these organizations have completed the application regularly.

Ms. Ackerman stated that Best Buy is running a E-cycling program. If you take your old electronics, they will provide you with a gift card. Ms. Ackerman offered to contact Best Buy and inquire where the recyclables are taken. Commissioner Brown stated if Ms. Ackerman is going to contact them, she could mention that the Township has a newsletter, also the Salisbury Press, if they would have interest in advertising their promotion. Discussion continued regarding electronic recycling and the local companies that offer promotions. Mr. Cinquino inquired if the EAC can designate an "awareness day" in the fall and a location to promote this (i.e. Township Building, South Mall, etc., for recycling electronics).

#### **Public Comments**

Kevin & Jill Stanley of 2741 South Pike Avenue expressed their concerns about a small unnamed perennial creek that runs through their property. There are issues with the runoff and erosion from the McAuliffe property because of the several springs that originate in that area. Ms. Stanley offered that water travels down the old trolley lines and also down Mountain Park Road, which causes erosion and gravel build up. Mr. Stanley stated that the property has packed modified gravel, which is continuously being added due to clearing, and it is soaking up the rain water which travels and feeds Trout Creek. Mr. Stanley offered to accompany Ms. Sopka for a site visit and arrangements will be made.

#### **Agenda for Next Meeting**

#### **Adjournment**

On a motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Benning, the meeting was adjourned. All in favor.