

**Salisbury Township
Environmental Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 21, 2011**

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

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 – 07/20/2011

Motion was made by Mrs. Benning, seconded by Mrs. Stinner, to approve the July 20, 2011 Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes as submitted. 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

Mr. Miller reported on the **NRI (Natural Resource Inventory) final review power point presentation** that he made to the Board of Commissioner's at the last meeting. Ms. Rebecca Kennedy, Watershed Specialist with the Lehigh County Conservation District (LCCD) joined him in the NRI presentation and provided an overview of the NRI report to the Commissioners. Commissioner Ackerman stated that it was an excellent presentation and that could be understood. Mr. Miller thanked the members of the EAC for their hard work in getting the presentation and NRI completed.

Mrs. Stinner stated that the **Backyard Composting Workshop** held at Green Acres Park Pavilion on September 10, 2011 had a great outcome. Ms. Linda Sheftel, Lehigh County Extension Master Gardener, provided an excellent power point presentation with materials. Beth Finley, Berks County Extension Office, provided assistance and a source for the compost bins. The Lehigh County Office volunteered hand out materials for the workshop.

The EAC discussed various suggestions brought up for other workshops. One suggestion was to consider a plant swap with a composting workshop at Franko Park. Commissioner Ackerman suggested speaking with the Fire Department for consideration to have a composting workshop during the Fireman's Community Day event as an added attraction. Mrs. Stinner stated at the workshop there were inquires about rain barrels. The EAC discussed having a rain barrel and composting seminar in the spring.

There was additional discussion for proposed events such as electronic recycling, paper shredding and future clean-ups, etc. Mr. Burchard stated that he would look into glove donations for upcoming clean-ups.

New Business

Ms. Sopka discussed the **executive summary** that will accompany the NRI report. This summary should identify the founding entities, goals and objectives. This is an additional piece of information that needs to be presented to the Board of Commissioners. Once accepted it will also be added to the NRI final plan. Each member addressed the portion of the executive summary they would assist with.

The creation of the **Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)** for the EAC web page on the township website was discussed. Mr. Soriano stated that the content would consist of time sensitive material, for example, notices of upcoming events, workshops, seminars, and products (after approval from the Board of Commissioners).

The EAC discussed proposed topics for the website such as including composting projects and locations; Walking Purchase Park history including the additional parks, advertisement for the next clean-ups. Ms. Sopka stated that she would speak with Ms. Genny Baillie, Recreation Director, for her input about the parks and the activities that are done within the parks.

Mr. Miller stated that each member should research and address a topic of interest and the required resources need to complete the project. A specific item of interest is household hazardous waste. Commissioner Ackerman stated she gets many inquiries from township residents on where they should take these hazardous wastes. Mr. Burchard offered to work on this topic.

Mr. Miller referencing the NRI, made a suggestion to provide information on invasive species with photos and links on the website. He believes this information will allow individuals to know exactly what is meant by an invasive species and how to manage it.

Mr. Cinquino suggested a “plant of the month” and/or “bird of the month” on the webpage. Commissioner Ackerman suggested adding information about grass chemicals. This will help in educating individuals about what these chemicals do to the water supply and provide alternative measures. Mr. Burchard agreed and inquired if there could be an area on the web page for this type of information and suggested calling it “Did you know?”

Ms. Sopka stated that she filled out the application for the **Audubon Pennsylvania Bird Town** but there are some aspects of the application that requires additional information. The program will require financial support. It provides benefits and identifies Salisbury Township as a resource for bird migration and its importance.

Public Comments

None

Agenda for Next Meeting

Adjournment

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