

# **WARRINGTON TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**

## **MINUTES TO NOVEMBER 5, 2008 MEETING**

The meeting started at 7:32 PM followed by Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Those in attendance were the following EAC members: Ivy Ross, Fred Suffian, Fraser Wall, Dave Weaver and Nick and Adele Weremeychik. Also in attendance was Barbara Livrone, Recording Secretary for the WTEAC. Members of the public included Lynn Laurelli, Stu Cohen and Brian Ogden.

### **Public Comment**

Introductions were made by the council to the members of the public.

### **Approval of the October 1, 2008 Minutes**

Minutes from the October 1, 2008 meeting, as amended were approved by Mr. Weaver and seconded by Mr. Wall. All were in favor.

### **WREN Grant Update**

Under this grant program a progress report needs to be submitted to WREN by December 8, 2008. Nick and Adele Weremeychik will help to prepare the report.

Mr. Suffian recapped the scope of work stating there are between eight to ten “deliverables.” Deliverables are completed activities or work products. They are as follows:

- Promote the healthy yard program through mailings, newsletters and a Warrington day event.
- Recruit volunteers for detention basin planting.
- Purchase plant and other materials for basin planting.
- Hold planting event at Buxmont Unitarian Church.
- Purchase and install weather resistant sign at basin site.
- Arrange for private contractor to conduct 25 homeowner Healthy Yard assessments (in-kind donations from contractor apply)
- Summarize the changes homeowners commit to making that will promote healthy yards.
- Hold Healthy Yards poster/brochure contest in local schools.
- Print and distribute winning poster/brochure.
- Purchase rain barrels for workshop.
- Submit interim and final progress reports and documentation of expenses.

To date the EAC has accomplished:

### Rain Barrels

A total of forty (40) rain barrels have been assembled. The requirement for the grant is twenty (20) rain barrels and materials that have been purchased, assembled and given away during the time period of the WREN grant (July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009).

### Healthy Yard Evaluations

Twenty five (25) healthy yard evaluation sign-ups have been obtained. Six (6) evaluations have been completed and payment to MS Gardening Services has been processed.

### Detention Basin Retrofit

A rain garden mockup prepared by Buxmont Unitarian Church was presented at Warrington Day. Buxmont Church is preparing a planting plan for their detention basin and a meeting with Bucks County Conservation District on November 10 is scheduled. BCCD will be viewing all three basins and an application will be made to obtain free plant materials.

### Poster Contest

Six teachers at different schools (i.e., Millcreek Elementary School) will be participating with a healthy yard poster contest.

WREN is funded by DEP and the township was awarded \$4997.00. The new WREN grant contact is Julie Kollar.

Mr. Weaver will be able to obtain more rain barrels for assembly.

There were a few rain barrel sign ups from Warrington Day who were not residents of Warrington Township. The council decided to go ahead and give a rain barrel to these residents keeping with the spirit of healthy yards. In the future, it will be specified the rain barrels are for residents of Warrington Township.

### **Growing Greener Grant Update**

Mr. Suffian reported the grant was for \$100,000 and the township agreed to match 15% of in-kind services. The township will naturalize two (2) detention basins and our match was the rain garden built in September, 2006 at IPW Park; label approximately six hundred (600) storm drains and assemble fifty (50) rain barrels.

To date, are two (2) deliverables which are two (2) detention basins. One detention basin is a wet basin located at the township building and the other detention basin is a dry basin

located at Guinea Lane and Warwick Road. On November 11, 2008 the basin at Guinea Lane and Warwick Road will be dug. Pressure transducers have been installed for a few months and data is being collected.

The third detention basin located at the Buxmont Unitarian Church will be soil tested by Mrs. Ross.

The third deliverable is the rain garden which is already built (IPW Park).

The fourth deliverable which is our match is twenty (20) rain barrels that were built at Earth Day. The balance of the rain barrels have to be completed in one year.

Storm drain labeling to date can be used towards our match. Presently, there are two groups who have not completed their storm drain labeling project.

Expenditures to date are for the consulting engineer, Land Studies, Inc., and pressure transducers purchased by On Set Computer Corporation.

### **Adopt-A-Road Program Update**

Mr. Suffian reported there were two (2) new Adopt-A-Road signups from Warrington Day. Maggie Mo's Ice Cream adopted Valley Square Road and Jean Seaman adopted Valley Road.

Some township roads not adopted are:

Titus Road  
Upper State Road  
Millcreek Road  
Turk Road  
Elbow Lane  
"new" Kelly Road (off of 611 through Warrington Ridge to Bristol Road)

Larger signs have been ordered and will be installed replacing the existing smaller signs listing the organizations who have already adopted township roads. The larger signs will be ordered for future sign-ups.

### **Clean Energy Outreach Plan Update**

Mr. Suffian and Ms. Laurelli staffed the township's Harvest Day held on Sunday, October 26, 2008. The EAC's theme was Clean Energy. One Warrington resident signed up for the program and another person who signed up was from Warwick Township.

Andrew Voris of SmartPower will be setting up a table at Redners on Saturday, November 8 and will be present at Home Depot on Sunday, November 9, 2008 to

promote clean energy and obtain more sign-ups. Mrs. Ross, Mr. Weaver and Ms. Laurelli will be volunteering from the EAC.

Native Energy which is approximately \$4.00 per month of renewable energy has been added as an alternative source of power to purchase.

Some business sites that were called to host a clean energy signup table located within the township have a no solicitation policy.

### **Stream Signs**

Mr. Wall noted that a lot of the names from Warrington Day are from around the United States and are already named. Mr. Wall submitted a list and followed a format for stream naming to have local historic significance.

Along with Mr. Wall's suggested names and the names submitted at Warrington Day, a map of stream numbers, the listing of names for each stream will be prepared and discussed at the December 2008 EAC meeting.

The United States Geological Survey has to approve the suggested names.

### **Other Business**

#### ➤ Bucks Beautiful 2009 Garden and Home Show

Sponsored by Bucks Beautiful and Byers Foundation, the 2009 Garden Show is being held at Delaware Valley College on March 20, 21 and 22, 2009.

Contact will be made to surrounding communities to partner with our EAC to staff the booth and promote Clean Energy.

Clean Energy will be the possible theme at the show.

The EAC will budget the full amount and if a township partners with us, they can help to defray the cost.

A motion was made by Mr. Weaver and seconded by Mrs. Weremeychik to register for Bucks Beautiful and rent a booth space 7' wide by 8' deep @ \$125.00 which includes one 6' table. All were in favor.

➤ It was decided to start sending out letters to area business to solicit monies for Earth Day 2009 event.

➤ Mrs. Weremeychik gave out the posters to businesses who participated and contributed to Earth Day as a thank you. Mrs. Weremeychik said the posters were well received.

- Mrs. Weremeychik reported a girl scout troop lead by Carol Saunter collected eighteen (18) bags of garbage at a clean up performed at Bradford Dam.

- Tree Inventory

Mrs. Ross reported that Andrew Bernardi, an Eagle Scout completed his project. He inventoried the Fox Run Terrace area and Mr. Suffian signed off on his project.

Mr. Suffian is waiting to hear back from Delaware Valley College for their participation and help with tree inventory.

- The 2009 Budget adopted at the October 2008 meeting did not include the expenditure for the EAC's newsletters articles.
- Purple Loose stripe. Mr. Gdanski received an email from a resident who lives near a wetland within the township and would like to remove the purple loose stripe because she feels it is an invasive species. A water pollution biologist from DEP responded to hand pull the species from the wetland. Mrs. Ross is going to respond to the resident and discuss the issue.
- Warrington Business Alliance Meeting was attended by Ms. Laurelli. Mrs. Laurelli stated eight (8) businesses were in attendance. Three hundred (300) letters were mailed out last month to invite businesses to partner with EAC to help with projects and to promote clean energy. To date, a response from businesses has not been received.
- Mrs. Weremeychik inquired about planting material at Buxmont Unitarian Church for a 2009 Earth Day project.
- Mr. Wall announced he is retiring from both the EAC and the Planning Commission boards effective December 31, 2008.

## **Adjournment**

A motion was made by Mr. Wall and seconded by Mr. Weremeychik to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. The meeting ended at 9:38 PM.