

WARRINGTON TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

MINUTES TO SEPTEMBER 3, 2008 MEETING

The meeting started at 7:34 PM followed by Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Those in attendance were the following EAC members: Becky Kiefer, Ivy Ross, Fred Suffian, Dave Weaver and Nick and Adele Weremeychik. Also in attendance was Paul Gdanski, Director of Public Works and Barbara Livrone, Recording Secretary for the WTEAC. A member of the public, Lynn Laurelli was also in attendance.

Public Comment

Ms. Laurelli has attended three meetings and is interested in continuing.

Approval of the August 6, 2008 Minutes

Minutes from the August 6, 2008 meeting were approved by Mr. Weaver and seconded by Mr. Weremeychik. All were in favor.

Healthy Yard Mailing Update

Mr. Suffian reported forty (40) questionnaires have been returned which are approximately ten percent (10%) from the June mailing, 6 healthy yard signups and 7 rain barrel signups from the Little Neshaminy targeted area. There were no responses from the clean energy campaign.

WREN Grant Update

Mr. Suffian reported the grant will fund the copying of the Healthy Yard fact sheets and sign up sheets. Additionally, the diverters for the rain barrel assembly will be funded by the grant.

Growing Greener Grant Update

Mr. Gdanski will send out letters to property owners notifying them of the detention basin that will be installed near their fence. Mr. Gdanski has a signed agreement Land Studies, Inc. The first basin is located at the township building. The second basin will be placed at the corner of Warwick Road and Guinea Lane. A possible third basin maybe placed at Folly and Pickertown Roads.

Mrs. Kiefer suggested adding a picture of a detention basin showing plants that are planted in a basin into the residents' letter.

Adopt-A-Road Program Update

Mr. Suffian reported there have not been anymore new signups. A map of the adopted roads will be on display at Warrington Day. Two township roads that have not been adopted are Upper State and Stump Roads.

Clean Energy Outreach Plan Update

Andrew Voris of SmartPower will be attending Warrington Day. Mr. Voris is our new representative from Washington DC. Mr. Voris will host a meeting to discuss ways of obtaining more clean energy signups.

Mr. Suffian will give a presentation of clean energy at the Business Alliance meeting to be held in September 2008.

Mr. Weaver stated that 2010 regulations will be lifted and electric bills will go up.

Mr. Suffian reported that as a result of the township newsletter, some requests to sign up for clean energy has been sent by email.

Stream Signs

The naming of streams will be made part of an exhibit for Warrington Day. Posters for streams will be on display. An application has been prepared to name the streams and will be at Warrington Day.

Green House Gas Inventory Grant

Mr. Gdanski spoke with CMX Engineering Corp to help with the application process without charging a fee to the township. The grant was mailed to DEP by the August 29, 2008 deadline. The match from the township will be six thousand dollars (\$6000.00).

Fifteen (15) townships from the state of Pennsylvania will be awarded Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20000.00) each.

Warrington Day – September 13, 2008 (Rain Date: September 14, 2008)

Assembling of rain barrels will be provided in the second EAC booth and electricity was requested for drilling of the rain barrels. People can build their own rain barrel and take the barrel home with them. If they are unable, their name will be marked on the barrel and they can pick up their barrel from the water & sewer department building.

The seven (7) people who have already signed up for a rain barrel will be notified to pick up their barrels at Warrington Day.

Posters will be used to decorate the rain barrel booth.

Heritage Conservancy is lending the EAC rain garden plants and donating one tree. The tree will be raffled off. The pre-formed pond will be a rain garden display.

Stream signs on poster boards will be displayed along with Adopt-a-Road and various brochures.

Staffing at Warrington Day will be Fred Suffian, Todd Baratz, Dave Weaver along with Nick and Adele Weremeychik will help to set up. Fred Suffian and Todd Baratz will volunteer from 11:00 to 1:00 PM; Ivy Ross and Lynn Laurelli will volunteer from 1:00 to 3:00 PM; Dave Weaver and Becky Kiefer will volunteer from 3:00 to 5:00 PM.

Volunteers from Delaware Valley College will help with Clean Energy sign up forms. Students from Central Bucks South may be available. The volunteers will receive a Clean Energy T-shirt and a voucher to receive lunch. Community service letters will be prepared by the township to give to the volunteers.

Recognition Ceremony Meeting – October 1, 2008

Volunteers from Earth Day and Warrington Day will be recognized at the October meeting. A letter will be sent out notifying them of the ceremony. Refreshments will be served.

Other Business

Stormwater problem

Mr. Suffian reported Lamplighter Village Condo Association sent a letter stating they are experiencing stormwater problems from on a storage building located close to a farm on Street and Folly Roads. Mr. Gdanski will follow up with the township engineer. The Condo Association is also requesting the EAC utilize the area for a future rain garden.

Rain Barrel Newsarticle

Mr. Weremeychik presented an article from the newspaper titled “Rainwater collectors work to ease shortages.” The article was based on more Americans using rain barrels to conserve water at home.

Lynn Laurelli reported on the following upcoming seminars:

Penn State Cooperative Extension Service is hosting a seminar on October 18, 2008 for Installing Pavers.

Penn State Cooperative Extension Service is hosting a seminar “Creating Sustainable Community Parks” in Centre Valley on October 29, 2008.

Green Roof to Township Extension Building

Mrs. Kiefer reported on the extension to the township building starting the spring of 2009. Mrs. Kiefer suggested using recyclable materials for a "Green Roof." Mrs. Kiefer would like the EAC to find a grant to apply for a Green Roof.

The advantages to a green roof is to reduce heating costs, the roof would last longer thus saving costs and run-off would not occur.

Tree Identification

Mrs. Ross met with Andrew who is working on his Eagle Scout tree identification project.

Mr. Suffian said the Urban Forestry Class at Delaware Valley College will be helping the township identify trees. Maps were given out to identify trees. Mr. Suffian met with the Director of Community Services and suggested this program to be part of the student's requirements.

Global Warming

Mrs. Ross said a 9th class is interested in learning more about global warming and wanted to find out more information. Mr. Suffian said the PAPEC (Pennsylvania Enviro Council) has a certified person who is versed in global warming and maybe of assistance.

Earth Day 2009

A naturalized detention basin at Bux Mont Unitarian Church will be completed. Discussion of hosting Earth Day at the church was contemplated. Potential liability issues were a concern since Earth Day is a township sponsored event. The educational displays and activities should be in the location of where the food is being served. The idea for holding Earth Day at the church was tabled.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Weaver and seconded by Mr. Suffian to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. The meeting ended at 9:43 PM.