

WARRINGTON TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

MINUTES TO APRIL 2, 2008 MEETING

The meeting started at 7:37 PM followed by Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Those in attendance were the following EAC members: Becky Kiefer, Ivy Ross, Fred Suffian, Fraser Wall, Nick and Adele Weremeychik and Paul Gdanski, Director of Public Works. Also in attendance was Barbara Livrone, Recording Secretary for the WTEAC.

Public Comment – None.

Approval of the March 5, 2008 Minutes

Minutes from the March 5, 2008 were approved by Mr. Wall and seconded by Mrs. Ross. All were in favor.

Bucks Beautiful Garden Fair – March 21 and 22, 2008

Mr. Suffian reported the Bucks Beautiful Garden Fair was well attended and there was a favorable response to the EAC's booth. There was also a lot of interest in rain barrels. Mr. Suffian thanked all the members for their support. Mr. Suffian stated the EAC received seven (7) sign ups for Clean Energy; however none of the residents resided in Warrington Township. There were some sign ups for the gift cards. One (1) was for Wegman's and three (3) were for Target.

Earth Day 2008

Volunteer Groups

Mr. Suffian reported five scouting troops (Boy Scouts 137, Cub Scout 172, Cub Scout 318, Girl Scouts 2594 and Cub Scouts 137) have volunteered to participate at Earth Day. In addition to the scout troops are the Central Bucks West German Honor Club (approximately 20) and Warrington Rotary Club (approximately 3-5) members. Lisa Crandall, a Warrington Township resident and some family members may attend.

A letter went out to all the organizations who have adopted state highways within the township requesting that they participate in our Earth Day clean up activities. One organization, B & B Canopy did respond but they have a prior commitment.

The district executive for Bucks County Boy Scouts has been contacted to reach out to more Boy Scout troops to see if there is an interest for them to participate at Earth Day.

Additionally, a contact was made with a teacher at Barclay Elementary School to possibly get fifth and sixth graders to participate at Earth Day.

Mrs. Ross suggested contacting CB South Environmental Club to see if there would be an interest. She stated the young adults need hours of community service. Mrs. Kiefer said the supervisors would be willing to submit letters on their behalf and possibly letters of accommodation.

Community Service Projects:

Mr. Suffian assigned an EAC member to supervisor a scout/volunteer group who has made a commitment to Earth Day.

Twin Oaks Pond Clean-Up

Mrs. Weremeychik is assigned to the CB West German Honor Club. The CB West German Honor Club is going to clean up the area around the pond at Twin Oaks Day Camp.

Rain Barrels

The EAC has twenty (20) rain barrels to construct. Mr. Weaver is going to build a rain barrel and will have it displayed at Earth Day. Mr. Suffian is trying to get supplies/hardware donated from Lowe's. Mr. Suffian stated that if there aren't any volunteers to build the rain barrels, the EAC may have to do so. The council agreed it would be helpful to have the rain barrels precut before Earth Day so that the assembly is easier. Mr. Weaver will be contacted to help with the precutting and Mr. Weremeychik volunteered to help. A list of supplies will be given to public works department for the rain barrels.

The Americorp Vista volunteers found a website portraying rain barrels which have been painted by artists. The artwork would make the rain barrel more appealing in one's yard.

Flower Planting

Mr. Suffian said Girl Scout Troop 2594 (5 scouts, 5 adults & 2 siblings) will be flower planting at Bradley and Folly; the memorial garden and the entrance to Twin Oaks. Mrs. Weremeychik volunteered to help supervisor the flower planting project. Mr. Suffian will be delivering the plants. The council agreed to purchase ten (10) spades, some watering cans and miracle gro mix that will be administered by the adults. Gloves will be given to the children.

Storm Drain Labeling

Neighborhoods have been mapped, labeled and will be matched up to groups of volunteers. Cub Scout troops will be the primary storm drain labelers. Their ages range between 7 and 10. There are six hundred (600) storm drain labels. Mr. Suffian and Mrs. Ross will be the leaders to supervise the Cub Scout troops. A map, clipboard, glue,

labels, safety vests and flyers will be given to the troops. The map will be returned marked with the storm drain that has been labeled.

Detention Basin Inventory

Boy Scout Troop # 137 lead by Mike Smith will be supervised by the Americorp Vista volunteers. There are approximately fifteen to twenty scouts (11-14 years) with five adults. They will be using the GPS unit inventorying the township's detention basins.

Little Neshaminy Creek Survey

The Americorp Vista volunteers will be surveying the Little Neshaminy Creek Watershed area in the afternoon.

Educational Facilitators

EPA Water Testing: An EPA volunteer will have a table set up testing for nitrogen, phosphorus, bio-solids from the lake and show the children the testing kit and how the color changes from the samples.

Park Creek Watershed: will be attending and demonstrating "Enviroscape."

PA CleanWays: will be sending their Litter I.Q. Board which is an interactive electronic display that creates litter awareness while educating the person about the life expectancy of carelessly discarded items. Educational brochures on litter will available for the children to take home.

Bucks County Conservation District: will attend and set up Ecogames.

The exhibitors will be at the pavilion and the council decided the coverage time for the exhibitors will be from 11:00 to 2:00 PM.

EAC: Rain Barrel display plus literature.

Food Donations:

Frankfurters (two hundred) are donated by Illg's Meats and will be picked up by Fred Achenbach.

Houlihans are donating sandwich trays and will be picked up by Mrs. Kiefer.

WAWA is donating two hundred assorted (200) juice boxes, coffee stirrers and small napkins. Mrs. Livrone will pick up these items from WAWA.

Dunkin Donuts is donating donuts (six dozen), coffee (4 boxes of coffee) and coffee cups. Mrs. Weremeychik will pick up the donation.

North Wales Water Authority is donating ten (10) cases of bottled water which is 240 bottles. WTWSD will be picking up the water and delivering them to Twin Oaks.

Wegman's donated a \$100.00 gift card. The following items will be purchased and picked up by Mrs. Ross: frankfurter rolls, mustard, ketchup, relish, mayo, napkins, individual snacks (200), sauerkraut, pickles, paper plates, tongs for frankfurters and cookies.

Plastic trash bags will be supplied by public works department. One can for trash and one can for recycling.

Plastic tablecloths will be picked up by Mrs. Livrone from the Dollar Store and ice will be purchased from Redner's.

Monetary Donations:

Valley Square Lifestyle LP submitted two donations: a check for Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) and a check for Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00).

County Line Fence donated one hundred dollars (\$100.00) towards the event.

Mrs. Kiefer suggested an article be submitted to the Intelligencer announcing the township's Earth Day event.

If the weather is inclement, Mr. Suffian, Mrs. Kiefer and Mr. Gdanski will make the determination if Earth Day should be postponed to Sunday, April 27, 2008.

The council discussed a ceremony to be held at Earth Day honoring the first organization to sign up for the Adopt-A-Road program. The Board of Supervisors will be invited to attend. It was suggested to have a picture of the sign, a sign up sheet and a copy of the application packet to be presented at Earth Day event.

Adopt-A-Road Program Update

Mrs. Kiefer reported she met with Warrington Rotary Club and informed the club about the Adopt-A-Road program. She said the club seemed very interested in participating.

The first set of signs was ordered from Garden State Highway for Karaoke and Beyond who is the first organization to sign up for the program.

It was in agreement for the EAC to manage and approve the "adopters" and periodically inform the supervisors of who adopted what section of township road and when the adoption took place.

Little Neshaminy Creek Watershed Grant (AKA Growing Greener Grant)

The grant was awarded to the township. The original amount of the proposal was \$128,000 and the awarded grant was for \$100,000. It was noted that everyone who applied for a grant had some of their requested money cut so that the DEP could spread the grant money to more organizations. Mr. Suffian met with DEP and they prefer to have the detention basin retrofits completed. If money is left over, the DEP would entertain a rain garden but they were not supportive of rain barrels and/or rain gardens. The DEP would prefer the township to concentrate on detention basin retrofitting. The signed contract must be received by the DEP by the deadline date of April 18, 2008. Mr. Suffian is working with Land Studies, Inc., to come up with revised budget estimates. Mr. Fraser suggested working with Horsham Township who already completed a detention basin study. Mr. Gdanski stated he will contact their public works director.

Street Tree Inventory Update

Due to lack of volunteers and not certain if the leaves will be out at Earth Day, this project has been removed from the Earth Day event.

The GPS unit was already purchased by the township and will be instrumental to inventory trees. The EAC will contact some of the high schools and Delaware Valley College to achieve a long term interest in tree inventory. Mrs. Ross suggested asking the students who have to work on senior projects in September of the school year and have them trained for the spring time. The software package is written to concentrate on the impact the tree has on home energy as well as stormwater runoff. The project will start with trees closest to the street and/or the trees developers have planted. Mr. Wall suggested a certain height of a tree should be taken into consideration.

The council suggested an article about tree inventory should be placed in the township's newsletter. Mr. Suffian suggested when a tree has been inventoried, a handout be placed on the residents door explaining the program.

Compact Fluorescent Light (CFL) Disposal Update

Mr. Gdanski reported it will cost \$100.00 to dispose of twenty five CFL's. The council felt this was very expensive. Mr. Suffian suggested adding a "Reuse" link to the website which would give residents locations to dispose of recyclable and hazardous waste materials.

Grant Proposals Update

The WREN grant was mailed and e-mailed to the League of Woman Voters requesting money to naturalize basins, healthy yard evaluations and rain barrels.

Other Business

Mrs. Kiefer attended the Bucks County Association of Township Supervisors luncheon. Mrs. Kiefer is going to submit EAC articles, i.e., Little Neshaminy Watershed Grant, to the association's newsletter and these articles will go to all township officials within the County.

Mrs. Kiefer suggested the companies along Paul Valley Road should be contacted to get them to commit to clean up their area. Mr. Gdanski did meet with the companies and stated the companies did not realize they were supposed to be responsible for this clean up area.

Mrs. Kiefer suggested someone should contact the churches to see if they would be interested in a clean up program.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Wall and seconded by Mrs. Weremeychik to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. The meeting ended at 9:44 PM.