

# Abington Township

## Environmental Advisory Council

### Meeting Minutes for November 8, 2017

**Call to Order:** 7:34 pm In attendance: Jennifer Sherwood, Sue Myerov, John Sorrentino, Michele Kaczalek, Cakky Evans-Braun, Karin McGarry-Rosen and Jim Webb.

Guests: Lindsay Blanton, Jennifer Bilger and Lisa Hansell (Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association – WVWA)

**Sandy Run Headwaters Focus Area Presentation:** Our guests from the WVWA presented a summary of their work on the Sandy Run waterway. Their main goals include reductions in: storm water flows; pollutant loadings/concentrations and streambank erosion. WVWA wants to determine what measurable impacts are being achieved by their actions in this microsystem. Phase II work is planned for 2018 -2020. WVWA will meet with Abington Township to coordinate planning of stream restoration and detention basin projects. They are also interested in recruiting additional streamkeepers via outreach to area residents. WVWA also discussed the Wissahickon Clean Water Partnership (WCWP) which is the municipal compact between 13 local municipalities in the Wissahickon watershed that have joined together to address Total Maximum Daily Loading limits for sediments and phosphorous to the Wissahickon Creek.

**Minutes:** The October minutes were accepted with 2 minor modifications.

**Chairperson's Report:** The report was accepted.

**Treasurer's Report:** The report was accepted.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Policy:** The report, to which Jenn attached Neal Gale's summary of the recent Planning Commission hearing regarding the Baederwood Residential Partners proposed development, was accepted.

**Programs:** The report was accepted

**Engagement:** The report was accepted.

## **Current Business:**

**Sustainable Abington/STAR Communities Program** – Cakky will contact Gary Calore from Penn State University (Abington) regarding the intern position.

**Commuter, Bicycles & Electric Vehicle Initiatives:** Discussed the possibility of using the Work/Bike/Park/Train and Bicycle Master Plans as a basis for applying for project funding from Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP). There is a CDP Webinar scheduled for November 16 regarding developing an investor network for sustainable building.

**Rain Barrel the Town (RBTT) project:** There has been some discussion with the Keswick Art store regarding displaying one of our rain barrels at their business location. The owner would be willing to decorate the display barrel.

**EAC Signs and T-Shirts:** Discussed the results of the vote for new T-shirt purchase. The vote overwhelmingly selected the pistachio color with the same logo previously used on the front and “volunteer” on the back. Twelve shirts are to be purchased.

**Fall Tree Planting – Shade Tree Commission (STC):** Tree plantings will take place on November 18 from 9 am to 12 pm at Hallowell Park (Jenn, John and Andrea plan to attend) and The Friends of Roychester Park are working with the STC on a 11/18 tree planting at Roychester Park. Jim will coordinate with John Capps from the Friends group. These events should be included in the EAC newsletter.

**Montgomery County Planning Commission Award:** Board members were reminded that the awards ceremony is scheduled for November 15.

## **New Business:**

**McKinley Elementary Environmental Night:** This event is scheduled for November 15 from 6 to 8 pm. Jenn will ask the McKinley Garden Club to set up a rain barrel which the student attendees can decorate. Jenn and Cakky will attend after the Montgomery County Awards ceremony.

**EAC Member Renewals:** John Sorrentino is due in 2018.

The meeting adjourned at 9:56 pm

Next Meeting – December 13, 2017