

**Abington Township
Environmental Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes – May 13, 2015**

Call to Order: 7:30 In attendance: Jennifer Sherwood, Cakky Evans, Michele Kaczalek, Susan Myerov, Andrea Soo, Jim Webb, Karin McGarry-Rosen, Alan Jalon
Guests: Josh Morell of Solar City, Nick Macelho, Jim Harris, Brett Harris of BSA Troop 7, Juliette and Gregg Kull, Linda Lauff, Bob Greaves

Minutes: The April 8, 2015 minutes were approved as amended.

Guests: Brett Harris presented a BSA Eagle project proposal to assemble and repurpose approximately 15 drums as rainbarrels. Project would include recruiting people, executing the plan and reporting back to the EAC. Brett will need a signature by July 14th to continue. Cakky will meet with Brett and Jim to review details. Jim Webb will sponsor Brett.

Josh Morell gave a brief overview of Solar City and the Ambassador Program, including possible benefits to Township and residents for enrolling in green energy through Solar City. Josh will send Cakky more information.

Chairperson's Report: The report was accepted.

Secretary/ Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report was accepted.

Committee Reports:

Administration: The report was accepted. Jennifer Sherwood briefly discussed the amended Pa Child Protection Service Law. EAC members need to review the law and determine what action we need to take.

Energy and Sustainability: The report was tabled.

Land Planning: The report was accepted as adjusted.

Public Relations: The report was accepted as amended.

Watersheds, Storm Water, Restoration: The report was tabled to next month.

Active Business: **New ZOC Draft** – Sue Myerov is finalizing comments. Cakky Evans has met with Larry Matteo and Mark Penecale. ZOC is about 75 % completed and targeted for completion by summer. Emily Costello will also submit comments.

STAR – Jenn extended a thank you to Cakky for a well organized presentation on STAR at the Rydal Meadowbrook Civic Association Annual Community Summit. Bob Greaves, an environmental engineer for the EPA gave a summary of his background and involvement in regional sustainability programs. Cakky proposed that a STAR Steering Committee be formed as a next step for the program.

Rain Barrel Program – Jim will continue to pick up rainbarrels. Karin McGarry-Rosen, Cakky, Jenn and Michele will staff the June 8th rainbarrel workshop at the Roslyn Library. Cakky will have the painted rainbarrel placed back in the lobby. Karin reported difficulty in opening certain documents for the rainbarrel program on the EAC website. Jenn will investigate and make any necessary changes.

Montgomery Award – Redeemer Valley Community Garden was named the recipient of the Montgomery Award. Jenn summarized the origin and growth of the Redeemer Valley Community Garden for the new attendees.

New Business:

E-cycling Event - Cakky and Karin will hand out fliers at the E-cycling at Florey Lane on June 20th from 9 to 1 PM. There will be a \$20 fee for TVs.

Pre-Night Out – An organizer is needed. A rainbarrel will be raffled off. Set up must be done by 4 PM. Karin, Michele, Andrea, Jim and Jenn will participate.

PAL Building Site – Cakky summarized the May Public Affairs Meeting. PAL is seeking approval to build on Township land and has a plot plan. Cakky stated she resent the 2013 letter from the EAC stating its willingness to act as an advisor on environmental issues for the proposed building/site.

Forming Township Sustainability Planning Team – Cakky proposed that the team be composed of Commissioners, Township Staff and citizens. A brief discussion was held, followed by Cakky giving a brief background summary of sustainability for the new attendees.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05

Next meeting June 10, 2015