Abington Township Environmental Advisory Council Meeting Minutes December 9, 2015

Call to Order: 7:34 In attendance: Jennifer Sherwood, Cakky Evans, Michele Kaczalek, Andrea

Soo, John Sorrentino, Jim Webb, Karin McGarry-Rosen

Guest: Amy Hopf

Minutes: The report was accepted.

Chairperson's Report: The report was accepted.

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

Committee Reports:

Administration: The report was accepted.

Energy and Sustainability: The report was accepted.

Land Planning: The report was accepted.

Public Relations: The report was accepted.

Watersheds, Storm Water, Restoration: The report was accepted.

Current Business:

Go Green Rewards Card – Cakky Evans reported there are 10 businesses signed up to participate in the program. She reiterated her request for EAC members to approach businesses personally, with the cards and a flier. A discussion was then held as whether EAC members should receive points in the Program. Everyone agreed that EAC members should not participate in using the card. After discussion, a motion was made and passed to approve the ordering of 1,000 new GGRCs with the proposed changes. After discussion, a motion was made and passed to use the remainder of the Township EAC budget to purchase energy efficient light bulbs.

STAR – John Sorrentino, Amy Hopf and Cakky will meet with Dr. Gary Calore on December 14th at Penn State to discuss how PSU-A can assist in Abington's STAR certification.

Rain Barrel Program – Jim Webb will check periodically for barrels. Karin McGarry-Rosen reported that the supply of pre-made barrels is dwindling and needs restocking. Cakky will provide a tarp to protect the barrels from the elements and hopes to get the 20+ drums drilled during the weekend's good weather forecast to build up the current supply.

Carbon Fee and Dividend – A discussion was held as to whether the EAC should endorse the program and how the Commissioners should be approached. The consensus was to revisit the issue at a later date.

Tookany Creek Flood Study – Jenn asked EAC members to attend the Wednesday December 16th presentation by the Army Corps of Engineers who will inform residents of the flood abatement plan and solicit comments. John will corral comments for submission on the project.

New Business:

2015 Annual Report Preparation – Jennifer Sherwood requested that EAC members review last year's report and send her a summary of their projects for 2015. The reports and photos (if available) should be e-mailed to her by January 13th 2016. The report will be sent to the BOC for their February meeting. Jenn will present a power point presentation at the Public Affairs meeting in March.

Election of Officers – Jennifer Sherwood, Chair; Cakky Evans, Vice President; and Michele Kaczalek, Secretary/Treasurer are nominated for re-election in 2016. A discussion was held on revising the By-Laws to split the Secretary/Treasury Position. A motion was made to add the position of Treasurer to the By-Laws. Jim Webb was nominated for the Secretary position. Michele Kaczalek will check for the latest version of the By-Laws.

Planning for 2016 – Dates need to be picked for EAC sponsored events. Karin will look at possible RBWS dates at the Library. A discussion followed on the cost and pricing of rainbarrels for 2016.

EAC Meeting Date – The EAC will continue to hold its meeting on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:30PM.

The suggestion was made to have Audubon do a presentation to the EAC. Jennifer will speak with Leigh Altadonna.

The meeting adjourned at 9:32

Next Meeting – January 13, 2016