

**Abington Township**  
**Environmental Advisory Council**  
**Meeting Minutes January 11, 2017**

**Call to Order:** 7:30 pm In attendance: Jennifer Sherwood, John Sorrentino, Andrea Soo, Jim Webb, Sue Myerov, Michele Kaczalek, Karin McGarry-Rosen and Sarah Blunt

**Minutes:** The minutes were accepted with several minor changes.

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

**Treasurer's Report:** The report was accepted. A discussion took place regarding the Jackson Park funds. They are being utilized for the meadow restoration at the Park. The Earth Right funds were also discussed. The Council members should think about how to utilize these funds for the benefit of the Township's environment.

**Committee Reports:**

**Administration:** The report was accepted.

**Energy and Sustainability:** No report was given.

**Land Planning, Watersheds, Storm Water, & Restoration:** Sue provided a verbal update as follows: Regarding the Baederwood development project, the zoning hearings continue. Sarah reported that the RMCA has made the issue a priority concern. Sue attended a meeting with Abington Township on January 10, 2017 to discuss potential alternate projects to reduce phosphorous loadings to the Wissahickon Creek and its tributaries.

**Public Relations:** The report was accepted.

**Current Business:** **Sustainable Abington/STAR Communities Program** – Nothing new to report. John is to contact PSU-Abington regarding an intern student for the fall semester.

**Go Green Rewards Card Program** – Jim is to contact Tara Wehmeyer re: future implementation of the Go Green Rewards Card Program.

**Rain Barrel the Town (RBTT) project:** Karin updated the on-line rain barrel request form. Discussed plans for rain barrel workshops including 2 in April (at

Briar Bush and w/the Shade Tree Commission on Arbor Day) and 1 in May (at Collins Nursery). The rain barrel to be donated for the Township Building needs a design. Discussed the idea of asking the H2O for Life Club to prepare some designs and allow the Commissioners to select one.

**2016 Annual Report:** Jenn requested that all members report any accomplishments to her by the end of January.

**Planning for 2017:** By-laws review – discussed several changes. Sue is to propose language to add the position of Secretary. Sue will also propose language to incorporate the PA Child Abuse Clearance requirement for anyone who will be supervising minors as part of their EAC role including for Associate members. Reappointments – Sue and Jim are up for reappointment on January 12. Committee reorganization – Both John and Sue submitted reorganization proposals. It was decided that Sue’s model would be used and evaluated. Then, John’s model could be tested. Project Support – Highland School was awarded a Farm to School mini-grant for which the EAC could provide support.

**New Business:**

**Associate Member renewals:** A discussion on renewals will take place at the February meeting.

**Planning for 2017:** Karin’s Girl Scout Troop is interested in constructing rain barrels and would like to do milkweed plantings at Roslyn Park.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm

Next Meeting – February 8, 2017