



**Montgomery Township
Environmental Advisory Committee
January 28, 2014
7:00PM**

The monthly meeting of the Montgomery Township Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) was held on January 28, 2014 in the Montgomery Township Municipal Building. The members of the EAC in attendance included: Beth Staab, Jeff Gibbons, and Mahbubur Meenar. Also in attendance were Stacy Crandell, Assistant to the Township Manager, and Joseph Walsh, Board Liaison.

Pledge of Allegiance and Call to Order

The Reorganization Meeting was called to order at 7:17PM.

Reorganization

Jeff Gibbons entertained nominations for Committee Chair. Beth Staab was nominated for Committee Chair and unanimously elected to remain Chair of the Committee for 2014. Jeff Gibbons was nominated for Vice-Chair and was unanimously elected to remain Vice-Chair for 2014.

Call to Order- Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting was called to order at 7:19PM.

Approval of Minutes – October 22, 2013

Jeff Gibbons made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from October 22, 2013 and Mahbubur Meenar seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Public Comment

John Nolan from the Stone Ridge Development attended the meeting just to learn more about what the EAC was working on.

New Business

Community Center Update

Beth Staab and Joe Walsh gave an update on the Community Center Updates including the list of eco-friendly initiatives. The new building will have the following eco-friendly concepts:

- Solar parking lot lights
- Recycle the water used at the spray park
- Light Harvesting: the main spaces have light sensors that dim or turn off lights when the natural sunlight is sufficient to illuminate the space.
- Bathrooms and offices have occupancy sensors to turn off lights when unoccupied.

- Almost all the lights in the building are LED for dramatically decreased energy use.
- High R values for the exterior walls and roof for energy savings.
- High efficiency HVAC system.

Joe Walsh explained that the bids were in the process of being advertised and they will be opened on February 27. The Township is anticipating a groundbreaking ceremony in May 2014. The construction will take about a year and the Center should be open by Summer 2015.

Cardboard Recycling Update

Stacy Crandell gave an update on the cardboard recycling. The Township has a new contract which should save money on the cardboard recycling.

Barnside Composting Facility Leaf Waste Tonnage 2013

Stacy Crandell reported that the 2013 tonnage was 92.1 tons of leaf waste, recycled through the Leaf Waste Collection/Drop-Off Program as well as from private trash haulers. This is pretty average, considering last year the tonnage was about 143 tons due to the hurricane that hit the area in the fall.

Old Business

Bike Trail/Walking Routes Update

The Committee has been working on this project for the past six to eight months. The Committee looked over the maps that they were working on for the four quadrants of the Township. The EAC would like to finalize the maps by the February meeting. Then they would like to have the traffic engineer attend the March or April meeting to review options for making the roadways more bike-friendly.

Eventually, the Committee would like to reach out to residents in the community to talk about this project. It was suggested to see about having someone from the County Health Department come to hand out helmets and talk about helmet safety. The Police Department has hosted Bike Rodeos in the past. This may be an event the Committee may want to organize.

Jeff Gibbons had some changes to the maps and will be sending them to Barry.

Spring Seminar Update

The Recreation Office has scheduled two seminars that the EAC recommended. The EAC will make sure that a member is at both seminars to introduce the speaker and raffle off the items. The Committee received approval to purchase a rain barrel and a bat house for the raffle. Beth Staab will send information to Township Staff regarding what type of bat house and rain barrel to purchase.

Stacy Crandell told the Committee that the Mall did contact the Township to discuss Earth Day. She explained that due to the low attendance the Township was not going to have the indoor activities at the Mall this year. However, a suggestion was made to hold the shredding and electronic recycling events at the Mall in the future.

Ideas for Promotional Items

The Committee would like to have leaf waste bags, no paper literature, and eco-friendly shopping bags. They would like to have signs at Community Day indicating the leaf waste bags are free and the dates for the leaf waste collection. Stacy Crandell reported that the leaf waste dates were updated on the website as well as the curbside collection dates for both the spring and the fall.

Next Meeting

The next EAC meeting will be February 25, 2014 at 7:00PM.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 8:06PM. The **next meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee will be February 25, 2014 at 7:00PM.**