

East Pikeland Township

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

February 9, 2016

Present: Leo Kaercher, Bill LaPorte, Zach Rubinich, Chris Baker

Staff: Kim Moretti

Absent: Frank Petite

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### **Reorganization**

Motion made by Chris Baker, seconded by Zach Rubinich to approve Leo Kaercher and Bill LaPorte serving as co-chairs of the EAC for 2016. Leo will speak to Frank Petite about serving as Secretary.

**EAC Handbook** – Kim distributed *The EAC Handbook*, a publication prepared by the PA Environmental Council. EAC volunteers are to review the handbook and consider projects/activities that could be adopted in East Pikeland Township.

### **2016 Activities**

**Recycling:** Kim announced the following recycling events: **May 7 – Paper Shredding event** at CAT Pickering on Charlestown Road. **June 18 – Electronic Recycling Day** at Phx. High School. Because of the PA Covered Device Recycling Act, passed in 2010, trash haulers are no longer allowed to accept electronic items and dispose of them at landfills. Kim informed EAC members that Best Buy will no longer accept televisions. East Pikeland is sponsoring this event in conjunction with Schuylkill and Charlestown Township and Phoenixville Borough. Schuylkill is managing the planning for the event. EAC members asked the following questions which Kim Moretti will follow up on:

- Why is E-Force (vendor for electronic recycling event) charging the municipalities on top of the residents dropping off e-waste? Aren't they already making a profit off of the materials that they will collect?
- Will E-Force work with East Pikeland to place a dumpster at the township building for once a month pick-up? What would be the cost involved?
- Can the EAC volunteers participate in the June 18<sup>th</sup> event in order to collect data on those residents dropping off e-waste?

**MS4 – Stormwater Management:** Kim and Leo gave a general explanation of the State requirements for the MS4 stormwater management program. Kim works with the township engineer to comply with MS4 permit annual requirements and prepares the annual report due each June to DEP. She will keep EAC members updated on MS4 requirements/activities. In the meantime, she asked EAC members to review the township website, under *Stormwater Program*, and provide a critique on how it could be improved.

**Public Education:** Kim asked EAC members to consider writing articles for a future *In Community* magazine that comes out four times each year. Possible topics – rain barrels, rain gardens, composting, recycling.

Kim will look into whether grants are available to purchase rain barrels or compost bins and then the EAC would hold education sessions with residents who are interested in buying either product.

Phoenixville High School has a new Clean-Up Club founded by a student who lives in East Pikeland and has been active in roadside clean-up projects. The EAC may be able to work with the Club on future education programs.

### **Ordinance Requirements**

Leo distributed sections of the Zoning Ordinance that explain the Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Standards. The EAC reviews Short Form Environmental Assessment Reports for subdivision and land development applications and determines whether additional information would be required of the applicant, as set forth in Section 1826 of the Zoning Ordinance. There are no projects/reports requiring review at this time.

**NEXT MEETING DATE: Thursday, March 24, 2016 at 7pm**

#### Follow-Up:

- 1) Leo to all Frank Petite to ask if he will serve as Secretary.
- 2) Kim Moretti spoke with potential volunteer Dennis Ray and he is interested in joining the EAC. An email reminder will be sent to him so he can attend the March 24 meeting. Email contact: [drayhome@comcast.net](mailto:drayhome@comcast.net)
- 3) Attached to these meeting minutes is information on Best Buys decision to no longer accept televisions. Also included is how to contact your legislator about overturning or amending the Covered Device Recycling Act.
- 4) DEP Recycling Program Development Grant applications are due in November. Kim will investigate and prepare to apply. EAC should provide guidance on what type of program they would like to pursue for grant funding.

Prepared by:

Kim Moretti, Township Manager