

MINUTES

Upper Saucon Township Environmental Advisory Council
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, May 1, 2018 - 6:00 PM
Township Municipal Building

Members Present: Thomas Gettings, Chairman
Doris Clegg, Vice Chairperson
Robert Uhl
Geraldine Davies
Dennis Aranyos

Supervisors Present: None

Staff Attending: Patrick Leonard, Special Projects Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Gettings called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM in the Public Meeting Room of the Upper Saucon Township Municipal Building, 5500 Camp Meeting Road, Upper Saucon Township, Lehigh County, PA.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Gettings asked all in attendance to stand and recite the "Pledge of Allegiance."

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION ITEMS

Rain Barrel Workshop will be June 30th, 2018

MINUTES

Regular Meeting, Tuesday, March 6, 2018 - Motion was made by Doris Clegg and seconded by Robert Uhl to approve the minutes. The vote to approve was unanimous.

Joint Meeting EAC/PARC, Tuesday April 17th, 2018 - Motion was made by Doris Clegg and seconded by Robert Uhl to approve minutes. The vote to approve was unanimous.

DIRECTION / DISCUSSION

Backyard Natural Habitat

Ms. Clegg noted that we will try and change the frequency of the Backyard Natural Habitat programs for 2018, to help keep consistent attendance. Topics she is investigating include: fall decorating with natural materials, and stargazing. She will look to book the upcoming programs in the coming months

Rain Garden: Ms. Clegg stated that PennState Extension only wants to hold events with 20 or more participants. This will likely be a problem because we often do not have more than 8 or 9 people attending our events. As such we may need to change the way we organize and prepare for events and use our website and resources more than relying on external support.

Community Development Director Patricia Lang suggested that the EAC reach out to residents that have had Rain Gardens created on their lots in the course of development to teach them about maintaining the Rain Gardens. CD will work with staff to identify the residents so the EAC can contact them.

Rain Barrel: Ms. Clegg reviewed the Rain Barrel Workshop scheduled for Saturday, June 30th. The event will be held at the Library. There will be three sessions limited to 10 people per session. Penn State Extension is hosting the event. To register online – <http://extension.psu.edu/rain-barrel>. The cost will be \$40 per barrel.

Stargazing: Can be done in August without involvement from PennState and won't be affected by the 20 participant requirement. More information to follow.

Natural Decorations: Can be done in October without involvement from PennState and won't be affected by the 20 participant requirement. More information to follow.

Electronics Recycling

Intake data from the recycling program has not been reported back to the township yet. However, it appears as though attendance was significantly lower than previous years.

Lehigh County Farmland Preservation

The Board of Supervisors has been actively approving farmland preservation in the past and the EAC will continue to present potential acquisitions to them for consideration to preserve.

Sustainable Community Park Update

The BOS will address the Haring Property in the June 25th meeting which will help to provide direction for components of the SCP.

Upper Saucon Township is meeting with the Engineer and staff to discuss phasing of the improvements on the Benckini property on March 13th.

Annual Report

The Environmental Advisory Council presented their Annual Report to the Board of Supervisors on April 23.

ACTION ITEMS

None

FUTURE ACTION ITEMS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Litter Awareness Campaign – start a FB page or web page on our website to educate residents on littering problems. Many successful efforts have been results of school children education programs. Recent cleanup days have been focused on areas away from roads due to safety concerns.

Mr. Leonard discussed a pilot program using juvenile offenders with Lehigh County Juvenile Probation to target a portion of Blue Church Road. If the program is successful, it could be implemented on a regular basis.

Ms. Clegg suggested looking for grant money to print educational information for dissemination to residents and looking to plan a program for next year.

Inter-municipal EAC meeting – Ms. Clegg will work on coordinating some type of meeting with other regional EAC groups in the fall.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business brought before the Council, Mr. Gettings adjourned the meeting at 6:30 PM.

Chairman

Patrick Leonard, Special Projects Coordinator