

Borough of Mechanicsburg
Environmental Advisory Council Meeting
April 4, 2006

Joint Recycling/EAC Committee Meeting

- The Recycling Committee reported that the special yard waste pick-up will occur for three consecutive weeks this spring.

EAC Meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m.

Attendance:

Council: Ryder, McDermott

EAC Members: Ronald Santo, Glen Weber, Arleen Shulman, Erin Arva, Harry Baker, Susan Richards, Sara Nicholas

Borough Staff: Glenda Boyer

Guests/Public Comment

- No public comment

Correspondence

- A Central PA Clean Air Symposium at the Second Presbyterian Church in Carlisle on April 22 was brought to the attention of the committee. Arleen Shulman will be attending the symposium. Shulman corrected the assertion made by the symposium email stating that Cumberland County has the second worst air quality in the country. Data collected in the county does not place Cumberland County in with counties having the worst air quality in the country. She also described the methods used to obtain air quality measurements.
- Radon awareness was also discussed.

Additions to the Agenda

- Discussion about controlling the litter caused by the Saturday *Patriot News* advertisers was moved to the beginning of the agenda so that the Councilmen could participate. Councilman McDermott updated the EAC on his efforts to prevent the pile-up of *Patriot News Saturday Extra* papers on sidewalks and streets due to neglect of some recipients. He determined that the correct number at the Patriot News to request to have delivery stopped is: 255-4223. It was suggested that the Borough identify houses with accumulated papers and call the Patriot, for the owner, to have delivery stopped. Arva agreed to submit an article for the Borough newsletter publicizing the problem and the phone number.

Approval of the Agenda

- Santo offered a sample agenda to the Committee for discussion. It was suggested that a Borough Council Report item be added following the Correspondence item in the agenda and the Recycling Committee Report be added after Approval of the Minutes.

Approval of Minutes

- A motion was made and approved to approve the minutes from the March 22, 2006 meeting.

Old Business

- The Chesapeake Bay Tributary Strategy public meeting was discussed. Councilman Ryder told the EAC that the implications of the Trib. Strategy for the Borough will mean approximately \$1 million for upgrades to the sewage treatment plant to reduce discharge and come into compliance with the new standards. The Borough will be looking into grant money to off-set some of the upgrade costs. Also, the borough is also working on an agreement with Silver Spring Township to establish a garden waste collection site at the sewage treatment plant. Garden waste would be turned into mulch at the site. It was agreed that the EAC would hold any actions on this item and have further discussion next month.
- The development of the Hess property and its impact on Cedar Run was discussed. It was agreed that, at present, the EAC has no role because the development plans are in a preliminary stages. The EAC will take no action at this time but continue to discuss the matter.
- Richards reported that she plans to order *Water Policy News* for the EAC.
- Rubber sidewalk information was discussed. It was decided that further research was needed to make a recommendation to Borough Council. The committee agreed to continue to research and discuss this item at the next meeting. Glen Weber will also ask Carl Hursh of the recycling committee for his input.

Questions discussed included:

1. How many vendors sell this product and are any vendors from within the region?
2. Is there a possibility of grant money for installation of a section of recycled rubber sidewalk by the Borough as a demonstration and test of the product?
3. How susceptible are curbs made of this material to plow damage?

New Business

- Santo designated the Recycling Committee a sub-committee of the Environmental Advisory Council and appointed the members of the Recycling Committee not on the EAC (David Hoover, Diane Hollinger, Carl Hursh and CeCe Viti) to the Recycling Committee.

Other Business

- Santo described the EAC Network which is supported by the Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC). The network provides information about the activities of other EAC's, calendar of events, and other resources to member EAC's through their website. There is a fee to join. Santo will research the Network further and report back.
- Shulman reminded the EAC members about the availability of information on the PA DEP website. The address is: www.dep.state.pa.us

- Arva discussed the *Sylvanian Magazine*, a publication of the Pennsylvania chapter of the Sierra Club. She offered to skim each issue and bring pertinent items to the attention of the EAC.
- Arva will draft an article for the Borough newsletter about the Commuter Services program and email it to the EAC.
- Nicholas offered materials pertinent to the discussion about Cedar Run and offered to take the lead on further research.

Adjourn

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 pm.