

**Borough of Mechanicsburg**  
**Environmental Advisory Council Meeting**  
*August 21, 2007*

Santo called the meeting to order at 6:05. It was suggested that the meetings begin at 6:30 in order to give people more time to travel from work.

**Attendance:**

Borough Council Members: Linda Humes, John McDermott, Charlie Ryder

EAC Members: Susan Richards, Ron Santo, Glen Weber, Cese Viti, Erin Arva, Sara Nicholas

Borough Staff: Glenda Boyer

**Reading and Approval of Minutes**

Minutes were approved with changes: they should reflect that there was not a quorum and attendance should reflect the Borough Council Members present

**Report of Recycling Committee**

Viti reported that the borough is adding recycling education for 5<sup>th</sup> graders to a 904 Performance Grant. The committee also proposed to fund ten \$50 scholarships for 5<sup>th</sup> grade students to the Rec Department's 2008 Environmental Camp. The funds for the scholarships will be added to the '08 budget. Viti also reported that bids are due in September for the borough's waste contract.

**Guests/Public Comment**

No guests

**Additions to the Agenda**

No additions

**Correspondence**

Santo informed the group that the EAC had received a thank you letter from Jerry Nailor regarding the EAC's letter in support of HB934. Nailor's letter stated that he had supported the legislation. Attendance to the EAC Network's Annual Membership Meeting was discussed. Santo, Boyer and possibly Nicholas will attend.

**Borough Council Report**

No new activities of the Council were reported.

**Reports of Officers and Committees**

No updates were reported. The EAC still has approximately \$12,000 in available budget.

**Old Business**

- Boyer provided an update regarding the Purina Plant and odor. She has not received a reply from Purina and will write to them to request an air quality report and get information about their use of bone.

- Arva reported that the biofuels letter was finalized in May. A final draft will be saved in the EAC files. She directed the group's attention to the 25 by 25 Groups website and their endorsement of biofuels.
- Richards reported that she had priced bare-root tree seedlings and they could be purchased for approximately \$1 each. It was suggested that the Market Street Festival, the third Saturday in October, would make a good event for tree distribution. Ideas such as a pledge to plant, and partnership with a high school student for a senior high project were discussed. Boyer suggested a table at the event in partnership with the Shade Tree Commission for the tree give away.
- Renewal of membership in the EAC network was discussed and will be researched.
- Weber presented an article from the Patriot News about installation of a rain garden in West Hanover Township. Weber suggested researching the viability of a rain garden at the drainage pond beside the waste water treatment center. Weber will draft a concept paper.
- Arva reported that she added additional items to the EAC page of the borough web site – the article "Safeguarding Our Streams," a link to the EAC Network and the storm drain pictures. She plans to add tree planting tips. Boyer will provide an article about E Day.
- Arva reported on the Penn Future Conference. Topics of interest include the "Cool Pennsylvania Campaign" which the EAC agreed to sign on to, an energy independence strategy, discussion about mass transit, decreasing carbon dioxide emissions for PA and biofuels.
- The EAC Strategic Plan was discussed. Nicholas submitted her draft. She used the EAC ordinance to develop action areas and goals. Santo suggested adding long range goals. A meeting devoted to discussing long range goals and concrete objectives was discussed and set for October.
- Arva submitted an updated calendar and attendance at various events was discussed.
- Boyer reported that the borough's Fall Newsletter will spotlight good recyclers, possibilities include St Joseph Church/School and Fry Communications

### **New Business**

Creation of an EAC member job description was discussed

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15

**Next EAC meeting – September 18, 2007**