

**Mechanicsburg Borough
Environmental Advisory Council
Tuesday, August 12, 2014 6:30 PM**

Call to Order

Santo called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Attendance

The following were present:

Board Members: H. Biggs, J. Crist, E. Miller, R. Santo

Staff: G. Boyer, Assistant Borough Manager

Council: None. Boyer noted that Councilman McDermott emailed to report that he would probably be unable to make it to the meeting this evening.

Absent Board Members: H. Baker, J. McCree

Guest:

Eagle Scout Gracen Hilsinger made a presentation to the EAC on his Memorial Garden Project at Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Park. Gracen was accompanied by his father, David Hilsinger, who worked with his son on the project. Gracen reviewed how he obtained donations from various vendors and the public to complete the Memorial Garden, in honor of John Quigley. Gracen asked the EAC to consider donating \$150 for a Star Magnolia Tree to complete the plantings at the site. After the presentation, Santo moved, Biggs seconded, to donate \$150 to the Memorial Garden Project for the purchase of a Star Magnolia.

Approval of the July 8, 2014 Meeting Minutes:

Santo asked that the minutes be amended to say, “following the presentation the EAC recognized the opportunity to support the Borough with the MS4 objectives by providing public education and outreach”.

Boyer noted that she would amend the minutes. Miller made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of July 8, 2014 as amended. Santo seconded the motion which passed with all in favor.

Report of the Recycling Committee:

Boyer reported that the Recycling Committee did not meet in August, but will be presenting a Recycle Right Reward at the August 19th Council meeting. Boyer also noted that the Police Department has installed a prescription drop box for proper disposal of prescription medications.

Report of Borough Council: None.

Agenda Additions: None.

Public Comment: None.

New Business:

Discussion on Possible 2014 Annual Report Insert

Boyer suggested that the 2014 Annual Report insert could be a handout for homeowners about stormwater management. Boyer provided a copy of such a guide distributed by the Philadelphia Water Department. The link to the Philadelphia Water Department website was provided by Biggs after the last meeting. Members Miller and Biggs both attended the workshop that Paul Garrett's Green Cause Group held regarding stormwater management for homeowners and reported that useful information was provided. The Annual Report goes to the printer around Thanksgiving and is out to residents at the beginning of the year. Boyer also discussed putting planter boxes on the Municipal Building similar to those on the Philadelphia website.

Old Business:

1. Natural Playground.

Biggs reviewed the outline she prepared for the project (attached). A PowerPoint presentation will be developed to promote the project. Biggs will provide text for the PowerPoint about the project which will be used to make a presentation at the Joint Recreation Board meeting in October. Borough Staff will provide pictures for the PowerPoint. The goal will be to have a draft of the PowerPoint for the next EAC meeting.

2. Community Garden.

Miller reported that he abated a groundhog infestation at the garden, by removing five groundhogs. Miller also asked staff to have the bucket of manure removed from plot 22 as it is drawing flies and mosquitos. Boyer reported that she spoke with the Senior Center and they may be interested in unused plots if they can have them at the end of April to take advantage of the growing seasons.

Correspondence:

None.

Other Business:

Miller reported that he attended the PA EAC conference call discussed at the last EAC meeting. He reported that he downloaded the handbook and received information about the upcoming conference in Gettysburg in May 2015. Miller stated that he would be interested in attending that conference.

Boyer reminded everyone to sign up for the Community Page so that they can use the EAC group forum option. Crist asked if the sign up form for the Compost Site is on-line. Boyer stated that it is under the Recycling/Compost Page and paper forms are available at the Borough Office. The cost is \$10.

Santo asked if an EAC e-mail was created for residents to send questions to the EAC on the website. Boyer stated that she will check on that.

Miller asked if a barrier could be put around the baseball field material next to the driveway near the Community Garden to prevent it from covering the driveway during rain events. Boyer stated that she will check with Mr. Speck about that.

The next meeting will be September 9, 2014 at 6:30 PM.

Adjournment:

With no further business to discuss, Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 PM. Biggs seconded the motion which passed with all in favor.

Glenda Boyer

Assistant Borough Manager / Recycling Coordinator