

**Mechanicsburg Borough
Environmental Advisory Council
Tuesday, October 21, 2014 6:30 PM**

Call to Order

Crist called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM.

Attendance

The following were present:

Board Members: J. Crist, J. McCree, E. Miller, R. Santo

Staff: G. Boyer, Assistant Borough Manager

Council: Councilman John McDermott

Absent Board Members: H. Baker, H. Biggs

Approval of the September 9, 2014 Meeting Minutes:

Several typos to the minutes of September 9, 2014 were noted. After discussion, Miller made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of September 9, 2014 as amended. McCree seconded the motion which passed with all in favor.

Report of the Recycling Committee:

Boyer reported that the Recycling Committee met last Tuesday, October 14th at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The Committee discussed plans to offer class A bio-solids for sale in 2015.

Boyer reported that the EAC has been asked to judge the naming contest for the product. A prize will be awarded for the winning entry. Mr. Adams is hoping that free samples can be given out by the EAC at their Earth Day table. Boyer reported that Earth Day will be April 18, 2014. The possibility of doing something with rain barrels for Earth Day was discussed, as that would tie into MS4 education. Boyer announced that the Recycling Committee's Commercial Recycling Award will go to Rutter's and will be presented on November 18th.

Report of Borough Council: Councilman McDermott reported that the next Town Hall Meeting was held on October 15th at 7 PM and the Landmark Homes Land Development Plan and Borough Infrastructure were discussed.

Agenda Additions: None.

Public Comment: None.

New Business: None.

Old Business:

1. Natural Playground.

Boyer reported that the presentation at the Joint Recreation Commission meeting on October 8th went well and Heidi did a great job with the power point. Tony Brown, Recreation Director, will discuss the idea with representatives from the School District who were not able to make the meeting. Heidi will make the presentation at the November 11th, Mechanicsburg Recreation Board meeting. The grant workshop for funding through DCNR is scheduled for November 5th. Heidi is unable to attend, so Boyer will go and bring back the information. Ron Santo stated that he would be willing to go as well. Boyer stated she will register him for the training, which will be held at the Camp Hill Borough Office from 9 AM till Noon. Hopefully we will have some feedback from the School District by the next EAC meeting.

2. Community Garden Update.

Ed Miller reported that he spoke with Barry Tyson, the gardener at plot #5 about some issues at the garden. There are ground hogs back again, and really attacking the gardens. There are many poorly maintained plots that should be mowed down now that the season has ended. Miller noted that the riding mowers used by the Borough are too wide for the paths, they damage crops. Miller stated that compost bins should be cleaned out of debris for the winter. It was discussed that we did not rent all the plots this year. Boyer stated she is going to contact Messiah Lifeways earlier in the seasons about unrented plots. The rental fee for non-resident plot holders was discussed. For 2015, the EAC will lower the rate for non-resident gardeners to \$40 to try to attract more interest. Ideas were discussed for ground hog abatement.

3. 2014 Annual Report –MS4 Stormwater Outreach

Boyer stated that she thought she would have a draft of the insert ready for this evening, but did not finish it so she will put it out via e-mail before the next meeting for comments. Members discussed other ideas for MS4 education. Boyer stated in the past, the EAC obtained a WREN grant for storm drain stenciling and also conducted the rain barrel workshops. Santo suggested that someone contact the PA EAC to see what other communities are doing. Jay will contact them to see if they have any suggestions. Councilman McDermott suggested checking with the Council of Governments to see what

other communities are doing. Councilman McDermott also suggested checking with the Representative from Lou Barletta's Office to see if they could offer any suggestions or information on possible funding sources for educational outreach. McCree suggested that the group look for information on best management practices and their implementation.

Correspondence:

None.

Other Business:

The PSAB Webinar on EAC's was rescheduled to November 20th. The Webinar will be hosted by PSAB, but coordinated by Nicole Faraguna, Director of Outreach & Education for the Pennsylvania Land Trust Association. Santo and Boyer will participate.

The next meeting will be November 11, 2014 at 6:30 PM.

Adjournment:

With no further business to discuss, Santo made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 PM.

McCree seconded the motion which passed with all in favor.

Glenda Boyer

Assistant Borough Manager / Recycling Coordinator