

**Mechanicsburg Borough
Environmental Advisory Council
Tuesday, September 22, 2015, 6:30 PM**

Call to Order

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

Attendance

The following were present:

Board Members: H. Biggs, J. Crist, E. Miller, S. Richards. K Thomas was delayed due to a work commitment and arrived at 6:50 PM

Guests: Erika Juran, 412 West Keller Street, was present.

Staff: G. Boyer, Assistant Borough Manager;

Council: None

Absent Board Members: H Baker, J McCree

Approval of the August 11, 2015 meeting minutes:

E. Miller made a motion to approve the minutes, with the correction noted by J. Crist. S. Richards seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor.

Report of Borough Council:

Councilman McDermott was not present.

Report of the Recycling Committee:

Boyer reported that the Recycling Committee met on September 8th for the Municipal Solid Waste and Recycling bid opening. At that meeting the Recycle Right Rewards program and the Commercial Recycling Award for 2015 were discussed.

Business Agenda:

1. Natural Playground.

The Natural Playground information was sent to the School District for their approval. A list of items was compiled to be considered for inclusion in the project

Stage with Seating (Outdoor Classroom)	Paths	ADA
Accessibility		
Butterfly Garden	Signage	Bird Houses
Bat Boxes	Stumps	Balance Beam
Bridges	Forts	Sensory Tables
Slide	Sand Box	Rain Garden
Arbor	Benches	

The Committee also discussed volunteer groups to get involved in the project:

Teachers	School Shop Teachers	Art Classes	Boy & Girl Scouts
Votech	Recreation Office	Recreation Board	Shade Tree

2. Community Garden Update.

Miller reported that he stopped by the Community Garden prior to the meeting and the gate was open and there was no one there. He said there are several plots that are over grown. Boyer stated that all plots were rented this season and she will check to see which plot owners need to be contacted to clean up their spaces. Miller stated that the plots lines and stakes need to be re-done. Boyer noted that Mr. Speck would like to put up signs “Do Not hang Hose over Water Faucets”. Also hay bale gardening was discussed, as it was found to attract rodents. We can look into making some raised beds to accommodate handicapped residents.

3. MS4 – Update

Boyer reported that the Borough had their first MS4 Audit September 2nd and everything went well. Erika Juran provided two examples of MS4 information outreach to consider for future use.

New Business

1. 2016 EAC Budget

The 2015 budget was discussed and it was decided to request the unused funds be moved to Capital as part of the grant match for the grant application. For 2016 it was decided to request \$7,000. That would include \$5,000 for the Natural Playground Project, \$1,500 for MS4 Education and \$500 for public outreach.

Public Comment:

None.

Correspondence:

None.

Other Business:

Next meeting will be October 27th at 6:30 PM.

Adjournment:

With no further items discuss to discuss, the group adjourned at 8:30 PM on motion of E. Miller, seconded by S Richards.

Glenda Boyer
Assistant Borough Manager / Recycling Coordinator