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**Environmental Advisory Council**  
**Tuesday, April 30, 2013**

The regular meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council was held on the above date for the transaction of general business.

EAC members present –D. Beane, P. Ignozzi-Shaffer, A. Molteni

Others present – S. Katzenmoyer, D. Hoag

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Beane called the meeting to order at 5:10 pm.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no comment from members of the public in attendance.

**MINUTES**

**Motion was made by Ms. Ignozzi-Shaffer, seconded by Mr. Molteni, to approve the March 26, 2013 meeting summary as written. Motion carried unanimously.**

**RAIN BARREL EDUCATION**

Ms. Ignozzi-Shaffer stated that there were many sign-ups at the Earth Day event. She requested that Ms. Katzenmoyer send an email reminder prior to the workshop. She also requested that the flyer be posted on the City's website.

Mr. Beane questioned if additional chairs could be placed in the room being used at Albright to accommodate a large number of attendees. He noted the need to stay in contact with Dr. Jennings. Ms. Ignozzi-Shaffer stated that she has inquired about this with Albright and was told that they only have office chairs and that there is a fee to set up and remove the chairs.

Mr. Beane stated that Albright is a sponsor of the event and that their uncooperative attitude will be a bad reflection of campus.

## **FLUORIDE IN DRINKING WATER**

Mr. Beane stated that a presentation by those in favor of keeping fluoride in the drinking water was held. He noted the need for a presentation by those opposed to keeping fluoride in the drinking water. Mr. Beane stated that Mr. Molteni was having difficulty in having those oppose attend a meeting. Mr. Molteni explained that there were schedule conflicts. He submitted additional information and requested that Ms. Katzenmoyer scan and email the information to the members.

Mr. Beane stated that the materials are helpful but a presentation with a question and answer period would be best. Mr. Molteni stated that those who would make the presentation do not have a background in science.

Ms. Ignozzi-Shaffer agreed with Mr. Beane and stated that she would like to hear their specific opposition issues.

Mr. Molteni stated that he has a dentist and doctor who are interested in speaking to the EAC.

Mr. Beane stated that these additional presenters are more familiar with the issue and will help the EAC focus. He suggested that the presenters make a 15 minute presentation with time for questions and answers to outline their position against fluoride in drinking water. He suggested that arrangements be made to have this presentation at the next EAC meeting.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Mr. Beane stated that an employee of Liberty Environmental is interested in serving. He requested that Ms. Katzenmoyer send an application form and move the applicant forward through the process.

Ms. Katzenmoyer stated that Ms. Curran-Myers is scheduled to be interviewed by the Council Nominations & Appointments Committee on May 6 and should be appointed at their May 13 meeting. She stated that Ms. Curran-Myers should be a member by the May EAC meeting. Mr. Beane suggested that she be added to all correspondence moving forward.

## **2013 EARTH DAY**

Ms. Ignozzi-Shaffer stated that the event went very well. She stated that she had a rain barrel on site and copies of the flyer available. She stated that the event

seemed to be well-received but there were several people who vented to her about the City Property Maintenance Division and Quality of Life tickets.

Mr. Beane questioned the turn-out for the event. Ms. Ignozzi-Shaffer stated that there will be a debriefing next week. She stated that she is unsure about the turn-out compared to past years.

Mr. Molteni expressed the belief that there were fewer people there this year.

### **BCTV PROGRAM**

Mr. Beane stated that the EAC switched with Solid Waste to have the April program. He stated that the EAC will have their next show in July. He suggested that members think about possible topics.

### **ALTERNATIVE ENERGY ORDINANCE**

Mr. Beane stated that he has not been able to work on the draft. He stated that he will have an update by the May meeting. He stated that many of the repetitive information will be centralized and condensed. He suggested that the technical language be removed so that residents can have a better understanding when they consider using alternative energy sources.

Ms. Hoag stated that there is much information contained in the legislation. She stated that condensing the information will be very helpful.

Mr. Beane stated that he received an email from Ms. Katzenmoyer that she was unable to meet with the Zoning Administrator to move the draft forward. Ms. Katzenmoyer explained the current Communication Policy and that she cannot speak with members of the Administration without permission from the Mayor's staff. She stated that she made this request three times and was still not granted permission.

Mr. Beane stated that this is why nothing moves forward in City government.

Ms. Ignozzi-Shaffer stated that the information she received from Philadelphia was not helpful.

## **BERNHART PARK**

Ms. Hoag stated that the City has received a check from Exide covering a portion of new signage for the park. She stated that this is in replacement of the grand opening event.

Ms. Ignozzi-Shaffer questioned the care for this park. Ms. Hoag stated that the agreement has been amended to include Exide's maintenance of the park through the 2013 season.

Ms. Ignozzi-Shaffer questioned who would care for the park after 2013. Ms. Hoag stated that this is still unknown.

Mr. Beane questioned if there was closure on this issue. Ms. Hoag stated that it is almost closed.

## **STORMWATER**

Ms. Hoag stated that the Wyomissing Creek Watershed has received their comments. She stated that the main issue is sediment. She stated that the group is working on removing technical language from the report to make it more readable.

Ms. Hoag stated that the MS4 Steering Committee has learned that some municipalities in Berks are moving to another region within DEP. She stated that this will also split the Wyomissing Creek Watershed. This issue has been reviewed with the County Commissioners and Senator Schwank. She stated that this move will make cooperation and reporting very difficult. She stated that this is a large setback and is very frustrating.

Ms. Ignozzi-Shaffer questioned if there has been any reconsideration on the move. Ms. Hoag stated that she has not heard but will be following up.

Ms. Hoag stated that EPA will be releasing their updated regulations on June 10.

Mr. Molteni questioned the number of monitoring sites. Ms. Hoag stated that she did not have this information.

## **SMART GROWTH**

Ms. Ignozzi-Shaffer stated that she did not attend the last meeting. She stated that she will forward the latest information via email.

## **EAC MIXER**

Mr. Beane stated that three members of the Reading EAC attended the event. He stated that he was impressed with the event and stated that there was much interaction between EACs.

Mr. Beane stated that Ms. Ortiz from the Audubon Society asked how she can assist the EAC. Mr. Beane suggested that she submit a list of topics of interest as she learns them.

Ms. Hoag suggested that the EACs also share legislation that they have drafted.

Ms. Ignozzi-Shaffer stated that there was discussion about dark sky regulations and trails.

Mr. Beane stated that all EACs present have membership issues. He stated that most EACs are not addressing sustainability issues as Reading is. He suggested that there is enough to keep this EAC busy for a long time.

Mr. Molteni stated that Nolde Forest is also focusing on sustainability issues and suggested that we work together.

Ms. Hoag stated that she is learning about new green options which give a more rural feel in an urban environment.

## **NEXT MEETING**

Mr. Beane stated that the meeting should move outdoors with the coming of the nice weather. He suggested Angelica and that meeting should be outdoors from June through September. He requested members consider other outdoor spaces to hold meetings.

Mr. Beane stated that the next meeting date conflicts with City Council due to the Memorial Day holiday. He stated that the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 21 at 5 pm.

Ms. Hoag suggested that members examine their schedules to determine a summer meeting schedule.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

The next meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council will be held on Tuesday, May 21 at 5 pm in the Council office.

Respectfully submitted by  
*Shelly Katzenmoyer*  
Deputy City Clerk