

## Palmer Township ESC – Meeting Minutes

### **Environmental Steering Committee**

**February 27, 2013**

**Attendees:** Chris Briglia, Tom Ganssle, Nancy Nicholas, John Olock, Cindy Oatis, Terry Cooper

**Pre-Meeting Q & A for Township Residents Opened:** 6:30pm Committee discussed new waste pick-up with the two residents that attended.

**Regular Meeting opened:** 6:50 PM

**Approval Of Minutes:** November 28, 2012 and January 23, 2013 ESC meeting minutes approved. Motion to approve- Chris B.; seconded-John O.

**Guests:** Two gentlemen mentioned previously, who left as meeting started and Chris (Mascaro)

**Hauler Report:** (1) No issues. (2) Wanted to know about transition meeting and when will Waste Management start to drop off new toters. (3) Tonnage is remaining stable for now.

**Adventures in Agriculture Show:** Problems were weather (snow storm February 8-9) and little foot traffic in Palmer Mall. Should we participate in the future? Did we get “bang for our buck?” Unanimous decision-No.

**Recycling Coordinator Report:** (1) Went to Lower Saucon Township ESC meeting and was very impressed. Organized under the PA Environmental Council guidelines, they have subcommittees and voting and non-voting members. They have hosted e-cycling and hazardous waste events, flower sale of indigenous plants, and have been involved with the Open Space Referendum. (2) Palmer ESC has been a member of the state organization, but has not been active in many years and, therefore, not seeing any benefits. Cindy O. is requesting that we either send a liaison to the Northampton Chapter that meets once a quarter or bow out from membership. Chris B. will research PEC and report back. (3) New waste and recycling contract FAQs is going up on website and more information will go out in the April and June newsletters. John O. was concerned about the website is too wordy and people don't read it. Though Cindy O. anticipates pushback from the residents, the Township is working hard to get plenty of education out. (4) Bill Buskirk will be the Waste Management's Supervisor for Palmer. Waste Management is making a Palmer group in their New Jersey phone bank. Waste Management bought Greenstar. Cascade Solutions will assemble and deliver our toters beginning the last week of April. (5) Our public education theme for single-stream recycling will be “All Together Now.” Preparing artwork for posters of what's to be recycled. (6) The DEP awarded Palmer the amount of \$250,000 to help pay for the automated toters under their 2012 902 Recycling Grant Program. (7) May E-cycling will not be needed since FreeCycle opened March 6. AERC now charges \$1500 set up fee making sponsored events cost prohibitive. (8) Board of Supervisors voted everyone will have to wait six months to purchase a second toter for \$250 each with no charge for the additional 5 – 8 years of collection and disposal.

**Old Business:** (1) Apr. ESC meeting will begin at 6:30pm. (2) Verify of prescription drug drop set for Apr. 27, 2013. (3) Great American Clean-Up—we'll find volunteers and do our own toward the end of May through The Patch, after the new waste contract is enacted.

**New Business:** None

**Adjournment:** 8:00pm Chris B motion to adjourn meeting; seconded by Tom G.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting is scheduled for March 27, 2013 at 7:00 PM at the Township Library conference room with a public Q&A beginning at 6:30pm.

*Minutes originally submitted by Terry Cooper March 27, 2013.*