

Palmer Township ESC – Meeting Minutes

Environmental Steering Committee

Sept 24, 2014

Attendees: Terry Cooper, Tom Dittmar, Tom Ganssle, John Marks, Cindy Oatis, and Rob Reese.

Meeting opened: approximately 7:02 PM

Approval Of Minutes: July 23, 2014, minutes reflect the discussion that occurred regarding revised Township organizational structure at the meeting. John M., acting chairperson at July meeting, agreed to table any motions until Chairperson Ganssle speaks with Chris Christman, Township Manager, and Robert Smith, Board of Supervisors Liaison to ESC. Motion to approve July 2014 minutes by Rob R; seconded by John M.; passed unanimously.

Recycling Coordinator Report: (1) A 902 Grant was submitted to Harrisburg for Recycling Center upgrades and expansion. Will hear in spring of 2015 if Palmer Township received any grant monies. (2) Easton Iron & Metal have a metal recycling container in place at Recycling Center on Hartley Ave. (3) Budget requests for 2016 need to be in my June or July 2015. (4) When asked about our income numbers by Rob R., 2014 numbers are definitely better than 2013, but revenue for recycled materials dropped off since June due to a slump in the market. Budget-wise Palmer is doing OK because costs for the garbage program is much lower due to rise in recycling and drop in waste.

Old Business: (1) During Palmer Weekend there were 131 tickets submitted for lawn mower raffle. Policy for raffle is that ESC members and Township employees cannot participate in ESC raffles. Next year have raffles for a lawn mower and two free Berks Street dump. (2) Do we need a theme for each Palmer Community Weekend? Showing a photo gallery of ESC projects from 2014 were well received. (3) Tom D. mentioned he needs help at the Household Hazardous Waste/Tire Event on Saturday, October 11 at Northampton Community College.

New Business: (1) Possible Great American Clean-Up sites for 2015 can be Hackett's Hill, Route 22 East-bound lane, and 25th St and Route 22 off-ramp. (2) Tom D. mentioned hold a one-day environmental event at the Community Center for native plants, invasive plants, and composting. (3) Rob R. mentioned legislation in PA Assembly Bill 1565 reduces protection of Riparian Buffer Zones. Need cooperation of Shade Tree Commission.

Adjourn: 8:50 PM John M. motions to adjourn meeting; seconded by Tom D. Approved unanimously.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for October 22, 2014 at 7:00 PM at the Township Library conference room.

Minutes submitted by Terry Cooper and unanimously approved on October 22, 2014.