

**Environmental Steering Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
September 28, 2011**

**Attendees:** Tom Ganssle, Rob Reese, Chris Briglia, Cindy Oatis, Tom Dittmar, John Balas, Denise Veres, Bob Natkie

**Meeting opened:** 7:04 PM

**Guests:** Chris Christman (Township Manager), Mark Ceasar (Mascaro)

**Approval of Minutes:** July 26, 2011 minutes approved.

**Hauler Report:** (1) Mark Ceasar mentioned that lids were replaced on dumpsters. (2) Cindy O. reminded Mark Caesar about providing proper signage for the truck picking up yard waste. Mark C. said he would provide the proper vehicle with the appropriate signage indicating yard waste pick-up. (3) Cindy O. said the phone log issue has been resolved. She also mentioned that there is free recycling drop-off in 4 counties and she asked Mark if this were possible in Northampton County. Mark C. said he would inquire about it and contact Cindy. Tom D. also mentioned that to offer this service, the hauler would need to be R-2 certified to accept electronics. (5) Cindy O. presented a letter of commendation for Mascaro from Mrs. Kelchner at 3618 Greenway St.

**Hauling Contract Discussion With Township Manager:** (1) Chris Christman was present for the discussion. The 2 main hauling options and bid Specifications were discussed and Chris C. said he would need a letter of recommendation from the ESC indicating their preferred option for hauling. Chris C. will need this letter to present it to the Township Board Of Supervisors meeting, at their meeting October 25, 2011. Chris C. mentioned that more than likely there will be further meetings with the BOS necessary. (2) The 2 options discussed were Single Stream with "Toters" and Single Stream Automated. (3) Chris C. mentioned that there is no capitol in the present budget to purchase trucks for "in-house" pick up service. (4) The ESC agrees that Single Stream is a priority. Tom D. mentioned that providing Toters was a good idea because they have lids and are heavy and stable. (5) Chris C. inquired about Recycle Bank and/or cash-back incentives for recycling and questioned how it would be accomplished administratively (i.e. through monthly billing?). (6) there were brief discussions of how to offset the price of toters. (7) Chris C. recommends that the ESC present the current hauling system as the base system to fall back on if necessary. He said to present the 2 main options to the BOS with Recycle Bank as a potential sub-option. (8) Tom G. said he would prepare a letter. He also recommended that the Recycle Bank would be too cumbersome to include within the 2 options at this point. He and Chris C. agreed that only the 2 main hauling options would be presented to the BOS at this time. They also agreed that the recycle bank option could possibly be included for the next contract period. (9) There was a brief discussion regarding profit sharing with the hauler for recyclables. It was agreed that this would be an item for Chris C. and Chuck to look into. (10) Rob R. mentioned past contract violations by the hauler and could Chuck look into this. Apparently the hauler was never penalized for the illegal actions. (11) Cindy O. will draft a letter to Mascaro by certified mail, inquiring about the violations. Chris C. will sign the letter. (12) it was agreed that the presentation to the BOS will include description of the 2 main hauling options only, with no mention of container costs.

**Recycling Coordinator Report:** (1) Cindy O. said Diane Grube thanked the ESC Community Day participants for their efforts. (2) Cindy O. commented briefly on the yard waste pick-up program. (3) Cindy O. announced that the Corporate Sustainability Seminar would be on Oct. 13, 2011 at the Steel Stacks Complex. (4 to get involved with.) Half of the paper shredding fee was compensated for and the remainder would have to be taken out of the ESC budget due to failed donor. The ESC voted to pay the remaining fee from the budget.

**Old Business:** (1) The ESC discussed results of the 2011 Palmer Community Days. It was decided that they well. The winner of the lawn mower raffle was picked after the event due to heavy rain. Denise V. recommended some multimedia presentation next year and also something for the kids. Tom G. recommended the ESC consider purchasing plastic containers to more efficiently store Community Day supplies, out of the ESC budget.

**New Business:** (1) Tom D. mentioned the HHW event held at NACC on October 8, 2011 and that he needed volunteers.

**Announcements:** (1) Chris C. thanked us for inviting him to the meeting and for all of the work the ESC has been doing over the years. (2) Rob R. annaounced the Octoberfest event at the Palmer Nursery on Oct. 8, 2011. (3) Rob R. mentioned the Nurture Vs. Nature Center as a future potential group activity for the ESC.

**Adjournment:** 8:43pm motion to adjourn meeting.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting is scheduled for October 26, 2011 at 7:00 PM at the Township Library conference room.

Minutes submitted by Chris Briglia October 24, 2011.