

**PALMER TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL STEERING COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

**January 24, 2018, 7:00 PM**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Tom Dittmar, Nancy Nicholas, Cindy Oatis, Ann-Marie Panella, Ken Starace, and Deanne Werkheiser

**GUESTS:** Mia Gaeta, Tom Moran, Madison Smith

Cindy Oatis called the meeting to order at 7:05pm at Palmer Public Library

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. Motion was made by Werkheiser, seconded by Starace, and approved by all to approve the Meeting Minutes of October 25, 2017.

**2. REORGANIZATION**

The meeting was turned over to Ms. Panella who called for and received the following nominations:

- A. Tom Dittmar was nominated for chairman by Werkheiser, seconded by Starace, and approved by all.
- B. Ken Starace was nominated for vice chairman by Werkheiser, seconded by Nicholas, and approved by all.
- C. Cindy Oatis was nominated for secretary by Werkheiser, seconded by Nicholas, and approved all. Oatis accepted the position on a temporary basis until such time as a member was available to accept this position.
- D. Designation of ESC Meetings – Meetings will be held at the Palmer Library, the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month, with no meetings in November and December.
- E. 2018 Plan of Action, Goals and Projects  
The committee confirmed 2018 projects and goals which will include numerous special collection events. Starace will serve as lead on the Earth Day Litter Cleanup and work will begin on this at the February meeting.

**3. OLD BUSINESS –**

- A. Ken Starace reported on the success of the tire reclamation project, along the Lehigh River Palmer Bike Trail, which removed 37 tires and 30lbs of plastic bottles and aluminum cans. A big thank you to all the residents, businesses, and organizations involved for a job well done!

**4. REPORTS**

- A. Recycling Report – Oatis
  - i. Easton Area School District (EASD) – Artwork is almost complete and signage will be printed and distributed by the EASD. Same will be modified for the upper grades.
  - ii. Oatis has arranged for a ReStore Stuff-a-Truck event and provided a list of all upcoming special recycling collection events. Werkheiser indicated she will be scheduling a latex paint event for Tatamy in the fall. All events will be advertised via the Palmer newsletters, website, Facebook pages and flyers at the Township Building.
  - iii. The 2018 PA Act 902 Grant has been announced. Palmer will be applying for funds to enlarge and improve safety at the existing recycling center.

**5. GOOD OF THE ORDER**

- A. Starace and Oatis reported on their attendance at the *Path to 50% Food Waste Reduction Workshop*. Information and technical assistance was provided to non-profits, municipalities, and businesses on the need to reduce, reuse, and recycle the exorbitant amounts of food going into the landfills. Both felt it was a worthwhile event and hoped that the initiative will successfully move forward in the Lehigh Valley.

**6. NEXT MEETING: February 28, 2018**

- 7. ADJOURNMENT –** Motion to adjourn made by Werkheiser, seconded by Nicholas, and approved by all.

Submitted by Cindy Oatis