

Haverford Township Environmental Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes – July 5, 2016, 7:30 pm

Attendees: EAC Members: David Schwartz (2 - Oliva) - Aurora Dizel (4 - Siegel) – Michael D’Antonio (6 - Holmes) - Henry Eichman - (7 - McGarrity) - Peter Puglionesi (8 - Connell) – Patty Loomer - (9 - Wechsler) - Dave Hartke (EAC Appointee); Commissioner Larry Holmes; P. Hickman - Township Liaison; Rob Graff – Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission; Schedule: 1st Tue. of Mo. at Quattrani except 7/5 & 9/6 (CREC), 10/5 (Weds).

1. Meeting Minutes

- a. **Prior Meeting Minutes Approval** (Motion: H. Eichman, 2nd M. D’Antonio, Unanimous).
- b. **Volunteer to Prepare Tonight’s Minutes** (P. S. Puglionesi)

2. EAC Website: Allie Rothman (Township IT) updated the web site, except M. Schaefer still has to finalize EAC “Who We Are” material.

3. Recycling: Commissioner Holmes reviewed his understanding of the status of the recycling program and indicated that he does distribute recycling containers to new residents. He believes we only pay about \$800,000 per year in tipping fees for all ~17,500 residences. EAC recounted feedback we get at public events where many new residents have not received them. We discussed potential recommendations to improve this, including ensuring that a can is provided for every move, and mailing a sticker every year with the recycling calendar. Commissioner Holmes requested that EAC make a presentation of its recommendations to the Board of Commissioners September meeting. We discussed that there are fewer Electronics Waste recycling opportunities now and only one this year with residents having to drive out to Marple. EAC will explore whether the E-Waste non-profit or their contractor would do a Township-wide pickup day and what the cost would be. Alternatively, there could be a 2-3 day local drop off event and then the contractor could pick it up. There was a suggestion of providing a downloadable recycling sticker image. We discussed seeking a grant for doing a study of trash/recycling rates and compliance. Commissioner Holmes also requested that EAC study alternatives to vacuuming leaves (e.g., paper bagging) due to the high cost in time and equipment rental.

4. Storm Water & Rain Garden Subcommittee (DL, PSP, HE, DH, DS, NS) Update:

HTSD: No updates.

Intern: No progress. N. Schmidt emailed Villanova contacts regarding getting an intern.

Paddock Park Rain Garden: No updates. EAC should verify that the inlet is 6 inches above the bottom of the basin and determine after plants mature whether the inlet can be further raised to increase detention capacity without affecting drain down within 2 days.

Median Rain Gardens: No updates. EAC/Rain Garden team members scouted an alternate location at Hathaway near the Eagle Road end which may be easily implemented than West Chester Pike. Mr. Gentile previously indicated that if we identify a suitable location, layout depth and plants, the Township can install it (including any necessary curb cuts). A preliminary plan needs to be developed.

Grants/Sponsorships: Open items: M. Schaefer to contact Whole Foods about dedicating a 5% day to the program, and P.S. Puglionesi to get a I-Radio Philly PSA aired. Lowe’s recommended applying for a larger grant (up to \$25,000) but this would require partnering for education and would require more time. Home Depot provided “broken bag” mulch and stone which met most spring gardens needs (mulch was purchased for the first garden), although this proved effort intensive and messy.

NFWF Grants: No update on the DCVA application for National Fish and Wildlife Federation (NFWF) submitted for rain gardens in the Naylor’s Run target sub-watershed. A potential application for the Hathaway Bioswales project (with SEPTA approval) was not in the 2013 plan’s “target areas” but can be submitted in later rounds.

100 Rain Gardens Initiative: The 5 spring “residential” garden installations were completed. The Merwood Park public garden grading by Public Works done in mid-June and it was planted July 2 by Merwood Civic Association.

Oakmont Rain Garden: D. Schwartz provided the plant list to Peter Hickman who completed the order for Haverford Township (initial) payment. Money will be recovered by the grant.

Advice on Updates to Twp. Subdivision Design Standards (for updating parking lot, sidewalk residential

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driveway specs and impervious cover standards to reflect modern GSI and improve infiltration and reduce flooding): No updates. D. Schwartz previously suggested just using the Philadelphia program guidance and provided links to it. It is not clear whether this is an appropriate “model” SALDO and/or specification.

DEP MS4 Permit for TMDL Watersheds: No updates. Revised MS4 General Permit is due in early 2016 with a requirement that every municipality discharging to an impaired water must put together a plan, with real projects identified and costed, for reducing causes of impairment by 5%-10% over the permit 5-yr term to avoid EPA and DEP creating a Total Maximum Daily Limit (TMDL) for the impaired water (e.g., 5-10% reduction of solids load).

5. **Assessing Progress in Climate Action Plan Implementation.** Rob Graff, Manager of the Office of Energy and Climate Change Initiatives, presented on Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission’s five year inventory of energy use and greenhouse gas emissions for the region broken down to the municipality level. The five year update will become available over the next few months and may provide the update we were seeking.
6. **Haverford Township Day Green Zone (Sat., Oct. 1st, 2016):** Planning will begin in earnest at the next meeting. Preliminary ideas were include emulating the LL Bean “boot toss” at Flower Show.
7. **Planning for Earth Day Event (Sat. April 23, 2016).** Resume activity in December.
8. **Contributions to Township and Recreation Newsletters.** Next deadline is for the Township Newsletter is ~ July 15 (10/15, 1/15 and 4/15) and for Recreation Department’s HavaGood Times is ~June 15 (9/15, 12/15 and 3/15).
9. **YMCA Proposed Parking Lot:** No updates. P. Puglionesi requested final design information from the engineer for the YMCA lot but didn’t get a response. Should review what/whether any GSI best practices were used and then remove from the agenda.
10. **Preparation of the 2014/2015 EAC Annual Report:** No progress. Will do a 2 year report/ presentation in January. Comments received on April 8 draft (Rain Gardens – D. Schwartz, Recycling – H. Eichman, General – J. Rushforth) to be integrated by P.S. Puglionesi and redistributed.
11. **Superfund Site:** No updates.
12. **Quadrangle Coordination:** No updates. Based on prior meeting, they are interested in an assessment for rain gardens, particularly for some areas subject to erosion during heavy rains. We advised them to retrieve stormwater design information to facilitate identifying potential rain garden locations.
13. **Township Building and Trail:** No updates, will remove from the agenda.
14. **New Business:** No update on 2017 Green Homes Tour in 2017 suggested by Dave Hartke who will take the lead on planning. P.S. Puglionesi emailed Cindy Mehallow of Newtown EAC to see if she will coordinate a possible EAC Summit with help from A. Dizel.