

**Abington Township
Environmental Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes – March 11, 2015**

Call to Order: 7:30 In attendance: Jennifer Sherwood, Cakky Evans, Michele Kaczalek, Susan Myerov, Andrea Soo, John Sorrentino, Jim Webb, Karin McGarry-Rosen
Presenters: Lindsay Blanton from Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association, David Robertson and Brad Nyholm from the Pennypack Ecological Trust, Julie Slavet and Jon Musselman from the Tookany/Tacony Frankford Watershed Partnership
Guests: Alan Jalon, Rita Witcher

Minutes: The February 11, 2015, minutes were approved.

The presenters gave a joint overview of the Delaware River Watershed Initiative. Julie Slavet closed the presentation with a request for volunteers to become “Stream Keepers”.

John Sorrentino then made a motion that all the submitted committee reports be accepted by consent. The motion was seconded and passed.

Chairperson’s Report: The report was accepted.

Secretary/ Treasurer’s Report: The treasurer’s report was accepted.

Committee Reports:

Administration: The report was accepted.

Energy and Sustainability: The report was accepted.

Land Planning: The report was accepted.

Public Relations: The report was accepted.

Watersheds, Storm Water, Restoration: The report was accepted.

Active Business: **STAR** – Cakky Evans introduced Alan Salon who then gave a summary of his background. This was followed by an update on the Glenside revitalization. He also stated that more stringent regulations and water treatment plant upgrades will be issued. Cakky then gave an overview of the different levels of participation in STAR. She will meet with Steve Kline on March 25, 2015 to discuss STAR and stated that Paul Macht would be on the steering committee.

New Zoning Ordinance Draft – Jennifer Sherwood reminded EAC members to get their comments in to Mark Penecale. A brief discussion followed on various issues within the new ordinance. Cakky will submit a list of comments reviewed at the Planning Committee meeting to EAC members. Susan Myerov will write up her concerns regarding storm water and the need to encourage the use of swales in the landscaping provision. She stated that the proposed ordinance is better than the existing ordinance.

Rain Barrel Program - There are 15 drums available for pick up. Karin McGarry-Rosen will get dates for workshops at the Florey Lane Annex and the Library. Sue volunteered to do the rainbarrel presentation on Arbor Day at Grove Park.

New Business:

Earthday Cleanups and Upcoming Events – Jenn again requested names for clean-ups: Crosswicks - 3/28 – Karin, Jenn, Jim, Michele
Scott Park - 4/13 – Jenn
Sandy Run - 4/18 – Tina, Jenn
Briar Bush Earth Fest – 4/19 – Cakky
Keswick Ave Underpass – 4/25 – June, Jenn
Arbor Day – 4/25 – Jenn, Cakky, Karin, Sue
John will head up the clean up at Grove Park and film the rainbarrel work shop.

Green Your Yard - This workshop will be deferred to the fall.

Website Updates – Karin and Jenn are updating and redesigning the site.

Newsletters – Cakky will submit items to the Township Newsletter. She requested volunteers to hand out fliers from 9 to 12 at the April 11, 2015 Florey Lane paper shredding event.

Montgomery Award – Jenn re-nominated the Redeemer Valley Garden Club. Michele Kaczalek will send out the summaries of previous nominees who have not won for review and vote. She also requested new submissions.

Associate Member – A motion was made and passed to nominate Alan Salon as an Associate Member.

The meeting adjourned at 9:44

Next meeting April 8, 2015