March 15, 2010 7:30 p.m.
Township Administration Building

The regular meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) was held tonight. Voting members present were: Daryl Carrington, Barbara Duffy, Lorna Rosenberg and David Schultz. Ex-officio members present were: Tom Bale and Jonathan Essoka. Also present was Bob Hamburg, Bonnie Hay, Jim Innes and Tom McHugh. Staff present was: Bryan T. Havir, Assistant Township Manager.

1. *Call to Order* – Ms. Duffy called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Havir announced that the guest speaker, Ms. Suzanne Ryan, of PECO Energy, had to cancel her presentation in response to the recent weather emergency.

2. *Acceptance of Meeting Minutes* – Ms. Duffy asked for a motion to approve the February 22, 2010 minutes. Ms. Rosenberg made a motion to accept the February meeting minutes as submitted, seconded by Ms. Duffy, the minutes were approved.

3. *Committee Reports* - A request was made at the February meeting for committee chairs to prepare a written committee report with key points for their verbal report at the meeting and to be given to Ms. McDevitt to assist in preparing the monthly meeting minutes.

A. *Buildings*. Ms. Rosenberg reported that after sharing information from the recycling committee with Dr. Bavi, a Cheltenham Township School District Recycling Plan was being developed by him. Earth Day will be the kick-off for the School District's recycling program responsibilities. Waste Management was to supply recycling dumpsters clearly marked at all schools. Waste Management is the owner of a landfill and is reported to have a model recycling separation plant in Philadelphia. Ms. Rosenberg reported that the Delaware Valley Green Building Council presented a program at the Chester County Intermediate Unit on Recycling Tools for School K-12 Workshop, "Collect It , Haul It,

Recycle It." on March 3, 2010 which was very good. Ms. Rosenberg e-mailed and met with Matt Malinowski, School District Business Director and Dr. Bavi.

Mr. Hamburg inquired about Organic Composting and suggested that if the School District were to implement such a program, the outcome would be zero waste.

Mr. Schultz reported on proposed educational projects to promote Environmental Building Practices in the Township through educational forums and on-line vehicles for Developers/Owners, Architects and Engineers and Building Contractors and Construction Managers to orient designers and builders to comply with the state building code (including IECC) in Cheltenham. Mr. Schultz discussed various resources needed to accomplish this task. Various educational strategies would be employed to meet the needs of Building Contractors, Architects and Engineers as well as Project Developers/Owners and design professionals. (See attached) Outreach was made to other counties.

Ms. Rosenberg stated that plans for a website for sustainable, green building concepts were in development. Items could include: Stormwater Management; Native Plant Ordinance; Construction Waste Management – with links and rebate information. It was suggested that a template be created and it be hosted on Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC) or the Township's website.

B. *Communications* – Ms. Duffy stated that members should contact Ms. Carroll if they have announcements.

C. *Transportation* – Ms. Duffy stated that there was an opening for committee chair. Ms. Duffy appointed a nominating committee which included Ms. Rosenberg, Mr. Schultz and Mr. Essoka to report back at the next meeting.

D. Watershed Committee – Ms. Duffy presented the following report: (see attached)

1) Earth Day Festival (Saturday, 4/24) still in planning—working with Myers Elementary School Principal to have the event there, which will include tours of the new LEED elementary school building. Any interested venders, community groups should please contact her.

2) Earth Day Projects (Saturday 4/17/10—some on 4/10 & one on 4/18) have been listed on the Township's website.

3) The Riparian Corridor Conservation Ordinance draft was completed by our Montgomery County Planner. It will be reviewed again by the ordinance committee and Ad Hoc Zoning Committee on March 22, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. Interested EAC Board members are also welcomed to attend the meeting. Care is being taken to address the issue of existing properties along the creek, while at the same time protecting the creek and floodplain in newly proposed developments.

4) The Native Plant Landscape Ordinance draft is still being reviewed by our Montgomery County Planner. It will then go back to my committee before moving onto the Ad Hoc Zoning Committee. If this ordinance is adopted it may become a model ordinance for our neighboring communities.

5) Met on March 1, 2010 with Mr. Lynch, Mr. Havir and Mr. Reitano regarding the SEPTA planting plan for the bridge replacement on Chelten Hills Drive. The Township and the Watershed Committee (WC) did not like the planting plan SEPTA submitted. It was agreed that the WC will come up with a plan to present to STAC at its March 25, 2010 meeting. Subsequently, the WC met with Ms. Minnich, Landscape Architect, to review the landscape and she will provide technical assistance on selection of plant material.

6) Stormwater Management Plan was presented to the Public Works Committee on March 10, 2010 by Mr. Shaw, Environmental Section Chief of the Montgomery County Planning Commission. The WC supports the plan and implementation ordinance. It was noted at that time that not all of the EAC members had a copy of the plan. Mr. Havir stated that he would e-mail the plan to the committee members for their review with comments due back by March 25, 2010 for final review at the Public Affairs Committee on April 7, 2010.

7) Ms. Duffy reported that Ms. Erlich, Mr. Penzak as well as herself will be attending a Tree Ordinance Workshop on March 16, 2010 given by Penn State and hosted by Lower Merion Township. Recent tree damage and loss from the storms have prompted many calls regarding tree maintenance and questions about our township's policies/ordinances regarding trees. Residents are especially concerned about our tree loss due to the recent winter storms and PECO's vegetation management program so this workshop is being held at a good time.

E. *Energy Committee* – Mr. Bale reported on Earth Aid, a behavioral modification approach to home electrical energy conservation in response to the EAC requiring a better sense of what it is and how it operates and how to develop an implementation plan to reduce energy use in the community. Mr. Bale arranged for a telephone conference call with Mr. David Byrd for questions and answers between the EAC and the software manufacturers of Earth Aid during the meeting. Following the conference call, Ms. Rosenberg felt that there was nothing to lose with the concept. Mr. Schultz had some concerns regarding the scale of what can be accomplished publicly and details of implementation. It was noted that Mr. Mettler's approach to sustainability has been focused on local businesses through the Transition Town concept.

The members felt the concept could be presented at the Earth Day Festival to engage the residents' interest. Perhaps a link could be set up on the Township website. A motion was made by Ms. Rosenberg to welcome Earth Aid as a concept and to support an Energy Sub-Committee to pilot outreach for Earth Aid to Business Groups (Glenside Downtown Merchants' Group) and report back to the EAC as a whole which was seconded by Ms. Duffy. The motion was approved.

Mr. Hamburg mentioned that Mr. Mettler's Transition Town meeting on Home Energy Savings had been re-scheduled from February 25, 2010 to March 25, 2010 at St. Paul's Church located at Mr. Carmel and Easton Road in Glenside.

4. *Old Business*:

A. Mr. Havir reported that the Request for Proposals (RFP) for a mechanical and electrical engineering design consultant for the Rowland and LaMott Community Centers Buildings Retrofit Project funded through the federal Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) was let last week. A pre-proposal meeting is scheduled for March 18, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. Responses to the RFP are due April 1, 2010. Mr. Havir will report back to the EAC at the next meeting.

B. Mr. Havir stated that Suzanne Ryan would like to reschedule her presentation on the PECO Residential, Commercial and Municipal Rebate Programs offered via Act 129 Plan at either the EAC's May or June meeting.

C. Pennsylvania Environmental Council Regional Conference is scheduled for April 1, 2010 at Abington Friends School. Mr. Havir stated that EAC members should submit receipt of registration for reimbursement. Ms. Rosenberg will be moderating a "Climate Change" panel session.

5. New Business – Mr. McHugh mentioned an interesting study from Harvard University on reducing oil and green house consumption and will forward a copy to Ms. Duffy.

6. Assistant Manager's Report – Mr. Havir reported on a minor subdivision plan that was filed for 711 Limekiln Pike at Oak Road near the Oak Summit Apartments by the property owner, Mr. & Mrs. Gale. Arcadia University representatives have been invited to the April 14th Public Works Committee meeting to discuss their future plans for the residential parcel since the University will be purchasing the parcel, which is adjacent to the Tookany Creek headwaters.

Mr. Havir also reported on a recent Zoning Hearing Board application that was submitted for 110 East Waverly Road. The proposal involves the construction of six new townhouses on a parcel already containing four dwelling units. The parcel is adjacent to a channelized section of the Tookany Creek which is part of the Glenside Flood Control project. There would be a variance required for encroachment with the flood plain. The Zoning Hearing Board application is scheduled for April 12, 2010.

7. The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for April 19, 2010, at the Township Administration Building.

David G. Kraynik,
Township Manager

Submitted by:
Kathryn McDevitt

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Environmental Advisory Council

Monday, March 15, 2010 @ 7:30 P.M.

TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
8230 Old York Road, Elkins Park, PA 19027

(Please Print Clearly)

Name	E-mail or Other Contact Info, if desired	Member (Y/N)
Jonathan Essoka	jessoka@verizon.net	Y
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BOB HAMBURG	bhanomalous7@gmail.com	

Watershed Report: EAC Meeting March 15, 2010

* Earth Day Festival (Saturday, 4/24) still in planning—working with Myers Principal to have the event there, which will include tours of the new LEED building. Any interested venders, community groups—please have them contact Barb Duffy.

*Earth Day Projects (Saturday 4/17/10—some on 4/10 & one on 4/18) are now on the township website.
* The Riparian Corridor Conservation Ordinance draft was completed by our MontCo Planner. It will be reviewed again by the ordinance committee and Ad Hoc Zoning Committee on 3/22 (next Monday). Interested EAC Board members are also welcomed to attend the meeting. Care is being taken to address the issue of existing properties along the creek, while at the same time protecting the creek and floodplain in newly proposed developments.

*The Native Plant Landscape Ordinance draft is still being reviewed by our Montco Planner. It will then go back to my committee before moving onto the Ad Hoc Zoning Committee. If this ordinance is adopted it may become a model ordinance for our neighboring communities.

*Met on 3/1 with Mr. Lynch, Mr. Havir and Mr. Reitano regarding the SEPTA planting plan for the bridge replacement on Chelten Hills Drive. The township and the watershed committee (WC) did not like the planting plan SEPTA submitted. It was agreed that the WC will come up with a better plan to present to STAC on 3/25. On 3/12 I met with Nancy Minich, Landscape Architect to review the plan and view the site from Chelten Hills Drive. Nancy agreed to draw up a new plan (free of charge) for the township and if agreed on by the township and STAC then it will be sent to SEPTA.

* Stormwater Management Plan was presented to the Public Works Committee on 3/10 by Drew Shaw of Montco Planning. The WC supports the plan.

*Diane Erlich and I (and possibly Bern Panzak from STAC) will be attending a Tree Ordinance workshop on 3/16 given by Penn State and hosted by Lower Merion Township. Recent tree damage and loss from the storms have prompted many calls regarding tree maintenance and questions about our township's policies/ordinances regarding trees. Residents are especially concerned about our tree loss. So this workshop is coming at a good time.

ECA Building Committee Meeting with Township Engineer - February

Topic: Proposed Educational Projects to Promote Environmental Building Practices in the Township:

1. Educational forums to orient the design/build community to compliance with new state building code (including IECC) in Cheltenham.
2. On line vehicles for communicating green building resources and models to the design build community as applied to Cheltenham.

1. A. Design/Build Audiences that we want to serve:
    1. Large scale residential project Developers/Owners;
    2. Architects and Engineers;
    3. Building Contractors and their Construction Managers.

1. B. Resources that we would like to tap to accomplish this:
    1. Cheltenham Engineering Department Staff;
    2. Building code educators from the Pennsylvania Housing Research Center;
    3. Local Engineers, Architects, and Builders with 2009 Building Code experience willing to volunteer on a Speakers Bureau;
    4. Weatherization trainers and simulation mock-ups & labs at ECA's Green Jobs Training Center;
    5. Montgomery County Township EACs and their referrals to township engineers and/or managers;
    6. Association of Building Contractors of Montgomery County (ABC);
    7. Federal funds designated for building code compliance education.

1. C. Recruitment strategies customized to the needs of each distinct design/build audience:

1. Building contractor education:
    a. employ hands-on lab and field demonstrations;
    b. individual contractors through associational networks and promotional venues, i.e A.B.C. and trade shows aimed at specific trade groups.

2. Architects and Engineers
    a. partner with training providers that can offer continuing professional education credits for maintaining licensure;
    b. provide at least one class training experience with audio-visual aids in partnership with professional associations
    c. provide for speaker bureau presentations at designer work places as follow-up to the class training experience.

3. Residential project developers/owners and their design professionals
    a. provide at least one class training experience with audio-visual aids in partnership with professional associations
    b. provide training experiences that not only orient to new code compliance elements, but also promote adoption of LEED building standards in project developments, and introduce developers to the LEED planning process and resources.