

**I. OPENING**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Environmental Advisory Council meeting of Lower Saucon Township was called to order on Tuesday, January 13, 2015 at 7:10 PM, at 3700 Old Philadelphia Pike, Bethlehem, PA, with Sandra Yerger, Chairman, presiding.

**ROLL CALL: Members:** Sandra Yerger, Chairman; Tom Maxfield, Vice Chairman; Laura Ray, Allan Johnson, Ted Beardsley; **Absent:** Hazem Hijazi & Dru Germanoski **Associate Members:** Glenn Kaye, Thomas Carocci & Mrs. Yerger introduced David Jauregui. **Absent:** Michael Boyle & Sarah Stanlick;

**Hellertown Liaison:** Terry Boos **Jr. Council Member:** Kyle Bambu

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**II. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. REORGANIZATION**

**1. NOMINATION OF CHAIRMAN**

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Maxfield moved to nominate of Sandy Yerger as Chairman

**SECOND BY:** Mr. Johnson

Mrs. Yerger asked if there were any other nominations. No one raised their hand.

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0 (Mr. Hijazi & Mr. Germanoski – Absent)

**2. NOMINATION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Beardsley moved to nominate Tom Maxfield as Vice-Chairman

**SECOND BY:** Mr. Johnson

Mrs. Yerger asked if there were any other nominations. No one raised their hand.

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0 (Mr. Hijazi & Mr. Germanoski – Absent)

**3. NOMINATION OF SECRETARY**

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Maxfield moved to nominate Laura Ray as Secretary

**SECOND BY:** Mrs. Yerger

Mrs. Yerger asked if there were any other nominations. No one raised their hand.

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0 (Mr. Hijazi & Mr. Germanoski – Absent)

**4. DESIGNATION OF EAC MEETING – TIME, DATE & PLACE**

**MOTION BY:** Ms. Ray moved for the EAC meetings to be held at Town Hall on the second Tuesday of each month starting at 7:00 pm.

**SECOND BY:** Mr. Beardsley

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0 (Mr. Hijazi & Mr. Germanoski – Absent)

**B. GOALS AND PROJECTS FOR 2015**

Mrs. Yerger reviewed the goals for 2015. Mr. Maxfield said No. 5, he doesn't how much more we have to do since Dru's student did the study. As far as underground hydrology we have pretty much of what we need. He will talk to Dru about the streams. We can ask staff which process we use to locate some of these streams and tributaries, but they are not going to show up on existing official maps as they are too small to show up. Mr. Boos said the SCWA went all the way to the headwaters of each of the major tributaries of Saucon Creek. Mr. Johnson said all the tributaries are on the GIS maps. Ms. Ray said Dru may have another student who would help us. Mr. Maxfield said when Dru first suggested students doing work for the Township; the actual plotting of the streams is info heavy and seemed to be a little too much work for one or two students. If a development becomes proposed somewhere, we will know there's a stream, vernal pool or wetland not listed on normal maps. Mr. Maxfield said the first place to start would be with Chris to get a water map and see what is listed and what is not. If we know of one, we can mark it. He will speak to Chris about this. He'd like to alter No. 5 on the 2015 goals.

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Maxfield moved to work with the Township staff (Chris Garges) to locate where additional small streams and tributaries would be as one of their 2015 goals.

**SECOND BY:** Mr. Johnson

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0 (Mr. Hijazi and Mr. Germanoski – Absent)

Mrs. Yerger asked about the Lighting Ordinance? Mr. Maxfield said a lot of work has been done but nothing has come before Council. He'd like to leave it on the goals. Mrs. Yerger asked Diane to get in touch with Johnny Johnson from FreeCycle for electronics recycling. Terry Boos said he'd like if we could coordinate with Hellertown and have a central location. He will get in touch with Hellertown to see who they used for the event last year. Mrs. Yerger asked to coordinate and report back at the February meeting. The following goals were approved for 2015:

- Promotion of Native Plant Garden
- Promotion of Electronics Recycling & Native Plant Sale
- Educational programs with the Saucon Creek Watershed Association
- Work with Township staff to locate additional small streams and tributaries
- Promote more frequent County recycling of hazardous waste collection
- Adopt-a-Road program in the spring and fall
- Lighting Ordinance
- Five Year Goal – establish environmental education programs at Township Parks and/or school district

Mr. Johnson said we bought two properties over by Savitske at the high school, they are just sitting there and he thinks we should suggest what to plant there and we should come up with a plan for Woodland Hills. Mr. Maxfield said the only thing the County would allow us to do is remove invasives. Mr. Johnson said we should check out the ponds on that property. Mr. Maxfield said we're supposed to be letting it go wild. The properties that are on Lower Saucon Road attached to the golf course may come closer to the ponds than we might like. Mrs. Yerger asked about the maintenance of the Savitske property, are they going to mow them once a year? Mr. Beardsley suggested we find out who farmed the fields and ask them if they want to farm it again. Mrs. Yerger asked Mr. Maxfield to find out from Jack what's going on.

**MOTION BY:** Ms. Ray moved for approval of the 2015 goals as discussed above.  
**SECOND BY:** Mrs. Yerger  
**ROLL CALL:** 5-0 (Mr. Hijazi and Mr. Germanoski – Absent)

Mr. Johnson asked about the school's educational program.

**III. OPEN SPACE SUB-COMMITTEE**

**A. PROPERTY UPDATES**

**1. UPDATE ON RICHARD MARSON PROPERTY – 2383 WASSERGASS ROAD**

Mr. Beardsley said Rich Marson has signed the agreement of sale for the conservation easement. Mrs. Yerger said we need a baseline study and a Land Trust Beneficiary.

**2. PROPERTY 2015-1**

Mr. Beardsley said he talked to the applicants and told them this would be brought up at the February EAC meeting. There's history to this property that Chris may be aware of. Mr. Johnson said someone called the Army Corp of Engineers as he has some information from them and maybe we can get some government help. Mrs. Yerger said you can, that's part of the Wetland Reserve Funding. Was it identified as habitat? Mr. Johnson said he didn't know but someone informed them it was likely to be.

**IV. DEVELOPER ITEMS – None**

**V. UPDATES/REPORTS**

**A. UPDATED EAC WORKING MAP** – Mrs. Yerger said this for tracking open space, park land, and reservoirs.

**B.** Mrs. Yerger said there is a list of PennEast Pipeline meetings that are being held.

**VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 9, 2014 MINUTES**

Mr. Johnson said page 2 of 3, line 44, instead of GIS, it should be "GS".

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Maxfield moved for approval of the December 9, 2014 minutes, with corrections.

**SECOND BY:** Mr. Beardsley

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0 (Mr. Hijazi & Mr. Germanoski – Absent)

**VII. OLD/MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

- Mr. Maxfield said Council has scheduled two meetings for the month of July and August.
- Mr. Maxfield said he asked our attorney about tipping fees for the pipeline and he said there is no legislation or ordinance against tipping, but the more important part is there's no legislation that permits or allows for tipping. He talked to someone with a different pipeline and he said there is some sort of grid system for natural gas as opposed to PennEast who told us there wasn't anything like that.
- Mr. Maxfield said Dave Spirk gave a presentation to Council for the Silver Creek Golf Course. They've singled out three areas where they would like to put in condo style golf course living in excess of 130 to 140 units total. All would be in LST. The selling point is the rest of the property that is golf course would be deed restricted to stay golf course or if the golf course failed, it would remain open space. They are going to need sewer extensions coming out of Hellertown, and people were worried about them going further, but with the deed restrictions and conservation easements would keep it in check.
- Mr. Maxfield said he got a call from someone at the Nurture Nature Center and they wanted to know as an EAC if we would have an interest in any programs there that they could provide speakers on any kind of topic that we may think is important for them to invite other EAC's. They called us the Golden EAC as we are so progressive. They want to share information with other EAC's and in our case, we would be directing or giving people ideas on how to do things. If you can think of any program you'd like, let him know. Mr. Johnson questioned solar panels and wind towers and said maybe they could have a meeting on that. Mr. Maxfield said he thinks our Planners have some things they want to present to us on wind and solar. One idea came up from Council suggested by the landfill was solar panels on the landfill once it closes as it's southern faced.

**VIII. TERRY BOOS – HELLERTOWN REPRESENTATIVE REPORT – No report**

**IX. NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Mrs. Yerger said the organization she works for has been involved with the bats. They had one of the largest hibernacula's in the east coast that was hit. The PA Game Commission is going to be inspecting it and what was on NPR, and in the NY Times today, they reported they have seen for the first time since 2006 an increase in bats and that they are making a recovery after losing millions. We're probably one of the only states in the US that have the expertise on working with the bats. Bucknell University is one of the leaders.

**X. PUBLIC COMMENT – None**

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION BY:** Ms. Ray moved for adjournment. The time was 7:56 P.M.

**SECOND BY:** Mr. Beardsley

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0 (Mr. Hijazi & Mr. Germanoski – Absent)

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Sandra Yerger, Chair