

I. **OPENING**

- A. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Environmental Advisory Council meeting of Lower Saucon Township was called to order on Tuesday, April 8, 2014 at 7:00 P.M. at 3700 Old Philadelphia Pike, Bethlehem, PA, with Sandra Yerger, Chairman, presiding.
- B. **ROLL CALL:**
Members: Sandra Yerger, Chairman; Tom Maxfield, Vice-Chairman; Allan Johnson, Ted Beardsley, Dru Germanoski, and Laura Ray; Absent: Hazem Hijazi; **Associate Members:** Thomas Carocci, Michael Boyle and Glenn Kaye (arrived at 7:11 pm); Absent: Sarah Stanlick
Hellertown Liaison: Terry Boos
- C. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- D. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF APPLICABLE)** – None

II. **OPEN SPACE SUB-COMMITTEE**

A. **PROPERTY UPDATES**

1. **PETRIE PRESENTATION – 2626 REDINGTON ROAD**

Mrs. Yerger said that Mr. Swallow is present on behalf of the Petrie's. Mr. Swallow said they made the survey and sketch plans for Ginger & Bruce Petrie. He said Bruce Petrie is also present. What they are seeking tonight is just to inform the EAC on the Petrie's intention to preserve the majority of their property and at the same time performing a small subdivision of residential lots along the roadways. The property is located at the northeast end of the Township off Redington Road. He had a map of the property which he showed I-78, the Redington underpass, Lehigh River. The Petrie's own well over 200 acres, majority is in woodlands. They currently have horses and recently acquired 70 acres.

Mr. Petrie said it is their intent to maintain the historical conservation type of property. Over the past ten years, several developers have come to him and proposed 26 lots and 20 some lots on the 70 acres. He asks that you respectfully look at them, not as a developer coming here to make their millions and leave, as they have lived here 25 years, but it's their intent to just develop a minimum number of lots to be able to pay off this note and make some improvements on their property. They have some stone walls falling down, some cemetery walls falling down; the barn is not re-pointed so the stucco is falling off. Their intent is to put three 2-acre lots and a 10-acre lot which encompasses the old Lerch house which was built in 1935 and all the barns. All these lots would protect their privacy. He and Ginger talked about not putting all of the land in preservation, but it's their intent they are not looking to develop anything else, just six lots right now and preserve a large part of the main tract into open space.

Mr. Swallow said they are currently surveying the property and have developed a sketch plan to present to the Township Planning Commission and a plan to go by for soils testing which typically they start at this stage to see if the sites are suitable, first of all for sewage disposal and second for stormwater management infiltration which is definitely required. They've worked with the Petrie's on identifying on where they would like to have the three lots. The land is suitable for development with not too many constraints as far as zoning regulations. Their primary access is Helms Road where the Township also has property. They are not proposing improvements unless they are forced to along Redington Road.

There's a tree line along the road. His evaluation of it is mostly overgrown wild cherries, nothing real substantial. The rear line for their 10-acre piece has been established by 150' buffer zone from the creek, so that's what they respected as far as a stream corridor. Some thought has gone into it, not just ideas on paper.

Mrs. Petrie said when they were talking about getting into open space. They were going to use the open piece on the Helms piece and come into their farmland and include the woods plus the stream. Mr. Maxfield has talked about a small corridor (could not hear Mr. Maxfield's conversation about the landlocked piece) and Mrs. Petrie said they were just planning this coming in here, nothing separate.

Mr. Maxfield said the stream is Bull Run and it's on our natural resource inventory. It has some valuable resources.

Mr. Johnson said the land along I-78, is it owned by the state or private? Mr. Swallow said they own up to the right-of-way. Mr. Johnson said we have an easement on a piece of property on the south side of I-78. Mr. Swallow said yes, he knows the Township attained an easement off of Applebutter Road.

Mr. Petrie asked if there was a date they were going to schedule a visit to his property? Mr. Beardsley said he sent a memo out asking the sub-committee when they would be available. He will let Mr. Petrie know.

2. UPDATE ON MARSON PROPERTY – 2256 SILVER CREEK ROAD

Mr. Beardsley said he talked to Richard Marson today and he hasn't done anything about the language of the easement yet, any questions he had, but he said he will do that this coming week.

3. UPDATE ON CHARLES MARTIN – 2256 SILVER CREEK ROAD

Mr. Beardsley said the Martin property is settled on the 18th. It's closed. Mrs. Yerger said there is a map of preserved properties highlighting the open space preserved so far with the Township. She would like to request of Chris if he could in another color show the parkland that is owned by the Township as she knows some of these pieces are contiguous with the park land especially the Savitske property, it links to the park. That way we have a better handle on all of that.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. DISCUSSION ON OPEN SPACE FUNDING

Mrs. Yerger said Ms. Gorman, Finance Director, is joining us as she would like to have a small discussion on open space funding.

Ms. Gorman said she will read the memo as follows:

“Act 115 of 2013 amended Pennsylvania's Open Space Law which authorized local government units such as Lower Saucon Township to preserve, acquire or hold land for open space uses and provided for referenda for residents to approve the collection of dedicated open space taxes for this purpose.

The amendment provides that in addition to acquiring land and easements, dedicated open space taxes may now be used to:

- Develop, improve, design, engineer and maintain open space acquired with dedicated open space taxes in order to provide open space benefits
- Prepare the resource, recreation or land use plan needed to acquire open space under the law
- Up to 25% of the annual open space taxes collected may be used for this purpose

Currently, the Township is collecting approximately \$1,000,000 per year from the Open Space EIT tax that was approved in 2011 to run until 2016 when it is due to expire unless a new referendum is approved by Township voters. This new law would allow the Township to set aside approximately \$250,000 annually from the Open Space EIT collections to be put into an Open Space Maintenance Fund which we envision using for the following potential projects on properties that were purchased by the Township with Open Space funding:

- **Draveczech Parcels** – funding would be used to install a parking area along the 50' easement road that would allow visitors to access the Township owned parcels. Signage and property boundaries would also be provided for way finding and to post the permitted/non-permitted uses on the parcels.
- **Easton Road Fields** – funds would be used to pay for the cost of the public parking lot to be installed this year off of Easton Road; for the pathways from the parking lot to the playing field; and for the spectator areas and bleachers planned for the baseball field
- **Reading Drive – Timko Property** – funds could be used for the installation of a permanent composting toilet at this site for visitors to the Saucon Rail Trail
- **Clover View Parcels** – funds would be used for improvements and maintenance on the lots owned by the Township
- **Townsend/Savitske Properties** – funding could be used to install walking trails to allow hiking, bird watching.
- **Future Open Space Acquisitions** – funding would be used to pay for the cost of appraisals needed to acquire the open space property, for the preparation of an Open Space Maintenance Plan for the designated property, and to defray the costs of the Township's stewardship of open space properties.

She is recommending that we request Council approval to set aside \$250,000 per year of the EIT Open Space Tax revenues in the Open Space Preservation Fund earmarked for Maintenance to be used for the above purposes.”

Mr. Johnson said he would like to see the Township use some of that money to find and mark the boundaries to the Draveczech parcels that they purchased.

Mrs. Yerger said she would like to see costs associated with this. We have to have some estimated costs. Ms. Gorman said this would be such as a budget where we're asking you to recommend that whatever amount of 25% that is collected in a given year can be used for maintenance. It's up to 25%, so that money would be set aside for that purpose. It doesn't mean it would be spent. It would still need Council's approval. Mrs. Yerger said she hears her, but she doesn't have a handle on how much this costs, so it's hard for her to determine what percentage would be most beneficial. Ms. Gorman said whatever would be allocated for that purpose would stay in that fund for that purpose. If it's \$1 million a year received and \$250,000.00 would be set aside that year, and we only spent \$30,000.00 of that, that \$220,000.00 will be rolled over into that fund until the funds are exhausted which could be 15 to 20 years from now. Mrs. Yerger said she knows you say up to, but maybe if we knew some of the associated costs with this, it wouldn't have to be that percentage, it

could be less is all that she's saying. Instead of 25%, maybe it would be more appropriate to do 15% or 10%. She doesn't have a handle on numbers.

Mr. Germanoski said he's with Mrs. Yerger on this. He'd like to see some cost estimates of these things and it strikes him as a fairly arbitrary number, so he doesn't see any rationale for why \$250,000.00 instead of \$200,000.00 or \$100,000.00 or \$400,000.00, and this doesn't strike him as the best way to manage funds to have an estimate as strikes him as arbitrary. This may not even be sufficient or it may be way too much, so he thinks it would be useful given that there are itemized requests that presumably it would be reasonably easy to generate estimates for each of those particular activities or costs. It would put that request into a better perspective.

Mr. Maxfield said one of the things he was thinking about as he read through this was that we maybe need to define some of these terms tighter. For example, on the backside the future open space acquisition section really talks about some kind of vague stewardship of open space properties which could be many, many things. It could be baselines, it could be monitoring, it could be who knows what. He thinks that should be something that is defined tightly, even though the law itself allows for a wide range of things that could be applied or applied to, we as a Township need to really define what it is exactly that we want to do in a less general sense for future stuff.

Mrs. Yerger said that's part of what she was saying. It's a little vague for them right now.

Mr. Johnson said is that what you understand the Township to mean under the Dravec parcel paragraph where it says signage and property boundaries. Do they mean to find and identify the property boundaries for the Dravec parcel? Ms. Gorman said she would assume so. That is her understanding as that's been an issue with the EAC. She thinks what they are really asking is more along the lines of a concept that this might be agreeable to the EAC, whether or not it's 10%, 15%, 25%, she believes that is more of a Council decision at that time what they would approve. She thinks we are looking more for a recommendation that the EAC would be willing to entertain the funding for this purpose.

Mr. Thomas Carocci said if this money, the 25% is set aside for the development, then it cannot be used for acquisition? Ms. Gorman said yes. Mr. Carocci said what if you needed that money for acquisition. Ms. Gorman said it would be anything future at this point. Right now, there's a certain amount of money the Township has in that account. It's not 25% of what we have. It's 25% of what's ongoing. In theory, it's 2014, 2015, and 2016; you are looking at \$750,000.00 to be set aside of the money you are going to get to maintain whatever Council approves that was purchased under open space. Mr. Carocci said if in the future in 2015 or 2016, the Township needed money to acquire a piece of property and they didn't have enough, that money could or couldn't flow back? Ms. Gorman said she would have to refer back to our Solicitor. She doesn't know how strict the law is once that's passed. Mr. Carocci said the Council could vote to put the money back into the acquisition fund if needed. Ms. Gorman said she will refer to our Solicitor.

Mr. Kaye said he took it to mean that there was the option of allocating up to 25% for maintenance costs, but not that 25% had to be specifically earmarked for such. Mrs. Yerger said she thinks what they are asking is for us to recommend the 25% to go in. Mr. Kaye said irrevocably earmarked for the next three years.

Mr. Maxfield said it's important to understand that any expenditure would have to be approved by Council. Any scope of this whether it would be surveying the Dravec parcels or any of that kind of stuff, all that work has to be okayed in order for the money to be spent, so the money can be there in the fund, but it still has to be voted on where it goes. He hates big funds of money sitting

there with limited definitions of usage on them for future Council's. It's kind of almost like what the County does when it goes after the open space monies. That's why we should tighten up on the definition of what these things can be used for. He doesn't know if we're being asked to recommend this specific amount of money or establish a fund or what exactly are you asking us the \$250,000.00 for? Ms. Gorman said she wouldn't say \$250,000.00 because 25% of your EIT at any given year could be more than that. She would say that at this point, whether or not you would be agreeable to the concept of this and then we can come back and make tighter recommendations if you don't feel comfortable with this. She's not sure if this should be at Council level on any given budget year. She's not sure if it's set in stone if you are going to say 10%, it's 10%. It could be 10% one year, 15% one year allocated at a Council budget level, but it just can't exceed 25%.

Mr. Maxfield said maybe it would be better for us to make a recommendation of a fund being established at this time at an undetermined percentage because if we get the specs that the other members are asking for, we could at least have some kind of guidance on what we need.

Mrs. Yerger said to answer Mr. Carocci's question, we need to know if it can go back. If we really have this fantastic property and that we're down to thaw money and it hasn't been spent, can we utilize it. She doesn't know.

Mr. Johnson said on the other hand, think about the possibility of the tax not being renewed and then we'd have money left over in the maintenance fund to do maintenance work on the properties we have until that money runs out, which could be years after.

Mrs. Yerger said she sees what Mr. Johnson is saying. Mr. Maxfield said he's not sure how the transfers in the budget go all the time, but we don't necessarily have to establish a fund. What this law is telling us is we are able to use up to a certain percentage of it. We could keep the open space fund as the open space fund but for up to a certain percentage of it each year we could pull monies out. That way we don't have to establish a separate fund that would then have to be voted on to be transferred back so we could purchase something. Ms. Gorman said it wouldn't be required to be in a separate fund. She doesn't believe so. Mr. Johnson said we could suggest and Council could agree to projects each year on a case-by-case basis as needed what projects should be done.

Mr. Maxfield said that money could be there for us to use because Lord knows we need to do some things, but as needed is a good way to go. Mr. Carocci said there's no way it shouldn't remain flexible if it can. There's no reason to earmark it. Mr. Beardsley said the other thing to keep in mind is Parks is going to have something to say. We're not going to be surveying the Dravec property, it should be them. We're not going to put in a parking lot. We're the EAC, we're not Parks. Parks is going to have to come with a proposal and then draw down money up to 25%. There may be some money we spend on appraisals too.

Mr. Germanoski said this is just a personal perspective, he thinks in principle, this is a sensible request, but the details are very important because in the very end, it does say that the \$250,000.00 per year or 25% if we use those terms, would be earmarked for maintenance. He would prefer if the intent here is to have a motion we vote on we should have a motion if we agreed on this that we agree in principle on setting aside funds each year, some percentage, whether we list that percentage, it would seem sensible to manage these funds properly to have perhaps a request made each year for a specific amount to be utilized in the way here. Like any other request, it's project by project, bottom line, then we wouldn't find ourselves perhaps with some opportunity to acquire some plumb piece of a large tract of open space and we wouldn't do what our colleagues in the Township voted for which was to develop a fund for open space acquisition. We would hamstring ourselves and this is not a statement of how the Township works or anything, but every

organization, if there's \$100,000.00 available, you can very well bet everything will cost about \$99,000.00. He gets a little nervous about putting a set percentage that goes on in perpetuity or as long as this open space fund exists. He thinks it would be more sensible to do it more on an annual basis. Project by project becomes cumbersome, if every month we had to approve a project and he doesn't think Council would want that, but maybe something on an annual basis with a reasonable estimate of the cost for each project.

Mr. Kaye said how are we currently doing it? How do these maintenance costs get paid for currently? The bigger question is, why do we need to earmark things currently? How is it different than what we are doing now? Ms. Gorman said any maintenance in a park fund or open space will come out of our General Fund. Mr. Maxfield said the Township people are paying for it for all the maintenance at this point. This at least is monies we collect by taxes, but it's associated with the purpose and its part of the budget. Mr. Kaye is this seeking to transfer those costs from one fund to taking them out of the open space fund? Mrs. Yerger said our one-time cost; we have acquired some of these parks so there are one-time costs. You aren't going to put in a parking lot every year. She thinks that's part of it. We've absorbed some of these parks over the last couple of years and there are things that have been pending for them.

Mr. Germanoski said to be fair, that's sort of an unintended consequence. We have an open space fund, we acquire open space, and then the Township discovers there are other costs associated with that and that stretches the other budget so in that respect, it seems sensible to use these funds to support maintenance of these properties to a reasonable extent. In essence, creating a new fund seems like something that would create a problem. It creates a new budget category. Mrs. Yerger said it's the park areas; the other open space areas are really not costly to the Township once the transactions take place. They are sort of done other than minimally monitoring them and things like that. It's the park land we acquired with the open space funding.

Mr. Maxfield said he'd guess it also is going to be much easier to track where costs are associated with open space and the park development, if it's all in one place so we're not yanking things out everywhere. He doesn't see a problem in saying we would support the concept of using those fund as needed, but he still would like to support it staying in the open space fund.

Mrs. Yerger said she's okay with doing the one-time costs. She understands that is part of it. The word "maintenance" worries her a little bit as that's going to be something that when the open space funding is gone, is always going to be there, so somehow they are going to have to figure that into the budget - the one-time cost of a parking lot or maybe developing. The things that need to be done for the first time around, but the long-term maintenance is the one that she is struggling with as that's always going to be here, whether it's the next 3 years or the next 5 years or the next 30 years. Ms. Ray said that would be a Parks & Recs budget. Mrs. Yerger said yes, she would be much more comfortable if the maintenance part of it comes out of it and the stewarding comes out of it and that we have the heavy costs, the heavy lifting.

Mr. Carocci said he agrees with the maintenance issues. He understands the law has been amended, but it was voted on by the Township residents in 2011 and they did not vote for maintenance. He remembers voting for that and he remembers the exact language and it was not maintenance, it was for the acquisition of land. Now we're going to ask them in 2016 to reapprove this, but if there's a bunch of money sitting in a fund not earmarked for acquisition as you told them it was earmarked for acquisition in 2011, and you lose a little credibility in 2016 if that's the way it shakes out.

Mr. Maxfield said it goes back to the point where "what is maintenance"?

Mrs. Yerger said she doesn't see this happening tonight. Do we want to put it back on the agenda for next month? By that time, maybe Parks and Recreation will take a look at it too. Mr. Beardsley said we could see what their comments are. Mrs. Yerger said maybe we could get their comments and recommendations.

Mr. Carocci said can anyone ballpark any costs for any of these things? Mr. Yerger said in the meantime, Ms. Gorman probably can do that for us. Mr. Germanoski said this is just more of a conversation request that something along the lines of a formal motion, but that Ms. Gorman carry the message from the EAC that we are in favor of this in principle perhaps, but we think it should be done on an annual basis with estimated costs on a project-by-project basis to build the total request for each year. The issue of maintaining credibility with Township residents, but all to be able to develop and make a decision in each case that is sensible and falls within the spirit of the open space program so that it doesn't look like there's a shell game and the funds are being diverted to support ball fields or back stops as opposed to something that fundamentally supports the ideas of the open space acquisition fund.

Mr. Kaye said he doesn't know if we're entirely in agreement with the very concept of it. To him, it doesn't sit well. He still agrees that the open space fund is for the acquisition of open space land and most of the land that is acquired, once you acquire it, you are done. For the few parcels that do require some sort of development or maintenance or what have you, it doesn't seem like that should come from the same fund. One of us said it seems like something that should fall under Parks and Recreation. He doesn't know if he agrees that even though it's in the spirit that the money should come from that fund to pay for it.

Mrs. Yerger said do we want to table it completely and think about it? It's new. Ms. Ray said meanwhile, what's happening at the Council level. Are they voting on anything? Ms. Gorman said she doesn't believe it's going to Council. Ms. Ray said we don't want to say nothing if they are doing something.

Mr. Maxfield said as you are thinking about it, already the open space fund has been voted on by a majority of Council to be used for things like appraisals and originally it was not lawyer's fees for acquiring the property. It's already been modified from its original intent. Ms. Ray said that's kind of more reasonable as you have to do those things to get the property. You don't have to turn them into a park. Mr. Maxfield said true. He was trying to figure out where a dividing line might be. It might be something like the Dravec parcel, for instance, maybe it doesn't meet Township or safety specs, the road going in and the condition of the bridge you have to go over, maybe in order for us to acquire it and become a space that could be used as open space, some of the one-time things that Mrs. Yerger was talking about might be done. Then maintaining the bridge, maintaining the road should not come out of the open space fund. It's kind of like what you need to establish that as open space and then it's open space and you give it to Parks & Recreation to become a park, then the open space fund should stop flowing. Does that make sense? Mrs. Yerger said what she's hearing that they don't even want as far as what we were saying about the development. She's hearing some that aren't even comfortable with that portion of it as well. That is something we haven't completely agreed on as a body.

Mr. Germanoski said Mr. Carocci said something that really resonates with him, and that's maybe what we should do before we entertain ideas of making a motion and so forth is look at the original language of the referendum that was put before the taxpayers. He does agree with the notion that when you are going to acquire a property, lawyer fees and appraisals are necessary. He doesn't think anybody would look askew of that use of funds, but maybe 2016 is the time to address this more formally where the new referendum would have language that indicates that these funds would be used for acquisition, improvements, maintenance, etc. and maybe the best thing to do is

look at the language from 2011 and the most recent referendum and make sure we are doing our best to steward that money as we were authorized by the Township.

Mrs. Yerger said she's kind of hearing what is a motion so that we should ask the Township to provide copies of the original referendum language for our next meeting and we will bring this back. We will table this discussion until we have a chance to review the original referendum language.

- MOTION BY:** Mr. Germanoski moved that we table this agenda item, Discussion on Open Space Funding" until the May 13th EAC meeting and ask the Township to provide us with copies of the original referendum language so the EAC can have a chance to review it.
- SECOND BY:** Mr. Beardsley
- ROLL CALL:** 6-0 (Mr. Hijazi – Absent)

B. DISCUSSION WITH TOM DITTMAR, NORTHAMPTON COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION COORDINATOR

Mr. Dittmar said he understand there are some questions in reference to the electronics. He thinks even the DEP has questions on that and what they are doing as they really messed it up big time. The law says that for TV's and monitor's that there's not supposed to be a charge. The vendors that are collecting like FreeCycle, AERC and a few others, have finally had to start charging as they are being charged for TV's and monitors because of the lead in the glass. There's no market for that lead like there used to be. The lead in the glass was used to manufacture new CRT's and TV's and nobody is using that anymore. They have a stockpile of leaded glass which takes over 1,000 degrees to separate the lead and the glass. They are all being charged for it. Out in the western parts of the country, they are finding warehouses full of TV's and monitors stockpiled every which way, so there is a problem there. Now the OEM's have started, like Johnny Johnson and a few of the other ones, charging them for \$20 to \$30 and even more depending on the sizes of the TV monitors. Johnny, last Saturday, goes over to his warehouse off of 25th Street and finds three skid loads of TV's that people dropped off during the night. He's got to eat that cost. It's going to cost him money to get rid of those TV's. The one year here at the Township we did it all for free. Everybody thought we're on the right track, the DEP is on the right track with the manufacturers that they are going to collect the amount and they are going to pay. All of a sudden that fund is dried up because they collected more than what they expected to. Anticipation within the next three years or so to ten years, the leaded glass, TV's will just about dwindle down. There's another problem with our flat screens. There are these little tubes of mercury inside of them. That's another separate problem. That's what we're stuck with right now. We pulled away from the County doing the programs after the last time they collected over 330,000 pounds. We're watching it to see what happens with the private sectors. If they fall apart, then maybe we'll end up picking it up, but right now we're letting the private sectors like AERC, FreeCycle, Best Buy take care of it. Waste Management is the only one he knows right now at their landfill who are taking TV's and monitors and electronics at no charge. That's up there in Plainfield Township or Bristol, PA.

Mr. Johnson said the problem is the people who manufacture the TV's and the monitors aren't paying enough to the guys like Johnny Johnson and AERC. Mr. Dittmar said they have a cost they accrue. Three or four cents a pound would be fine, but they don't even want to pay that. Half of them are saying a half a cent a pound or a penny a pound. Mr. Johnson said doesn't the law say these people have to recycle at least as much as they sell? Mr. Dittmar said yes. Mr. Johnson said the way he sees it, they have to do it and they have to pay whatever the recyclers need. Mr. Dittmar said that's what they said to the DEP, and the DEP says, well we were going to meet the whole 100%. Last year he thinks they only met 60%, but this year they are saying 100% but nobody is saying these OEM's are paying these small vendors.

Mrs. Yerger said they are not telling them how much they have to pay for this is where the problem is. They have to recycle but they don't dictate. They may have to pay \$1.00 or \$4.00 or \$10.00. Mr. Johnson said who is telling them how much they have to pay? Mr. Dittmar said the DEP and the state is not saying how much they have to pay back to these people. Mr. Johnson said so who is it up to then? Mr. Dittmar said they've all been asking that. They asked the State to jump into it and handle it. What they have to do is let the market handle whatever it's going to handle. It's going to take a year or two. It's a shame as he's finding more and more TV's and monitors all over the place being dumped, left and right. Mr. Johnson said are they meeting the requirement of the amount of equipment being recycled that the law says has to be recycled? Mr. Dittmar said they are getting the capacity and they are getting more. They exceeded the capacity last year. Mr. Johnson said then the laws being met. Mr. Dittmar said the laws being met but they are not paying. Mr. Johnson said there's a bigger supply than that. Mr. Dittmar said they never expected the size or the demand. You go out to parts of the western United States and you'll find TV's in warehouses that all of a sudden they are abandoning them. Huge warehouses full of TV's and monitors. They are having problems everything. The problem is all this lead was leaching out into the landfills back into your drinking water. Mr. Johnson said aren't landfills supposed to be lined so that doesn't happen? Mr. Dittmar said it leaches into their treatment plant system, but their treatment plant systems are not designed to catch lead. Mr. Johnson said it goes right through Bethlehem Treatment Plant. Mr. Dittmar said right, just like medications. Mrs. Yerger said there isn't a treatment plant in the world that can extract medications.

Mr. Dittmar said the DEA has a collection medication program coming up on April 26th. He sent that email out to all the municipalities. DEA does not let us know who is going to be collecting it until the beginning of the month. April 1st he found out what municipalities were having collection events.

Mr. Johnson said should we talk to our representatives and tell them to fix this problem? Mr. Dittmar said yes. Johnny has been there talking. There have been a lot of people at meetings. AERC one of the biggest collection people in this area has finally said they can't do it anymore. They started charging. They stopped doing events. AERC did more events in this area than anybody, usually 300,000 to 400,000 pounds. Mr. Johnson said he can understand the business can't do it if they can't make a profit. The only thing is they just won't do recycling.

Mr. Dittmar said Johnny did a survey that he sent out to municipalities including Lower Saucon Township. Last year he did the electronic collection at LST as well as the year before. Every couple of years they got to do their recertifications and R2 certifications. He is one who is doing it. It will cost him like \$15,000.00 for that. It's very strict and it's very time-consuming. He's looking for feedback from the municipalities and customers on how he did at the events. He would say please fill them out and get them back to him and let him know. The few companies around are closing their doors. The one up in Walnutport closed their doors. There's a whole warehouse of TV's up there. So if you can, please fill out the survey for Johnny. Get it in as one. Let him know if there are changes you think need to be made, let him know.

Mr. Dittmar said just like tires, they are being dropped everywhere. They have added tires to the Hazardous Household Waste event. The first event is May 31st at Northampton Community College. At this event, he's collecting tires. The cost is \$1.00 for car and truck tires. They are not charging that, but they have another company coming in. The County is not going to charge or get involved in the money. It's \$2.00 if it's on a rim, and truck tires are \$5.00.

Mrs. Yerger said she sees this on all of the drop off events about latex paints. Mr. Dittmar said add sand or kitty litter to it and let it air dry. Once it's air dried, it can go into the trash. That's what the DEA and DEP both tell us as it's not a hazardous product. There is another program they are looking at right now. They have been talking to Habitat. They are looking at buying a can crusher. The cans for Latex paints, it crushes them, captures the paint into a 55 gallon drums, and you run it

through a pump and filter and they are looking at helping Habitat for Humanity getting a program going. Western U.S. they are doing it. Mrs. Yerger said she saw a program on that. Mr. Dittmar said they were doing it at Egg Harbor, but he can't get anybody in this area to come up and capture it. They may even do it at one of their events and they'd like vendors like Lowes to start taking these paints back. There is a good use for it. He's looking into it, but doesn't have it running right now but he wants to get involved in Latex.

Mr. Dittmar said anyone who would like to come and help at his event May 31st, please get in touch with him. It's just help with the traffic control. Give him an hour or two to help out with traffic. Mr. Johnson said do volunteers get to dump their stuff first? Mr. Dittmar said nobody sits more than five or ten minutes now. They got rid of one vendor that showed up with half of their work force that year and had people sitting an hour and a half. They collected 138,000 lbs. of material and 2,000 cars come through the event. They've done seven events so far and two scheduled for this year. Last year at the courthouse they recycled 55 tons with a cost avoidance of over \$4,000.00. There are some municipalities that started using an automatic system with 96 gallon containers and they spent \$750,000.00 for their residents to get one 96 gallon container for trash and one for recycling. They've gone to single stream recycling. They went up to almost 250,000 tons they recycled last year. There are changes. When he looks across the board at all municipalities, Lower Saucon is increasing their recycling. We have some municipalities going down the past couple of years. They are on the right track, but Act 101 has been in effect for the last 22 years and why haven't we done better. Nobody is at the 35% recycling rate in the Northampton County but we do have all 38 municipalities in Northampton County recycling which is a rare thing. Mr. Johnson said when the garbage picks up your recycling and garbage. Mr. Dittmar said if he's picking it up as recyclables, a lot are sending it to Green Star and they are sort separating it. Unfortunately, a lot of it is put into containers and sent over to China and foreign countries where they are remanufacturing and shipping it back to us.

Mrs. Yerger said there's a rumor going on that a lot of the main stream recyclers, if you don't pull your tops off your plastic, that they won't recycle it as it doesn't go through their mechanisms right. Mr. Dittmar said if you are going to single stream, they have optical sorts and separate everything. The system does it automatically, whether there's a cap or not. Ms. Ray said over at Illick's Mills they ask you to remove your caps. Mr. Dittmar said that's because he's marketing and selling things separately. He's sending it to another guy out by Hamburg.

Mr. Johnson said Rep. Freeman is pretty good about listening to people. Mrs. Yerger said write him a letter. Mr. Dittmar said you can't throw everything into a landfill. We have quite a ways to go. Mrs. Yerger said maybe we can post some of these brochures at the Township.

Mrs. Yerger went over the survey so that it could go back to Johnny Johnson. The EAC answered Excellent to the first, fourth, fifth and sixth question. The second and third question, N/A. Mr. Johnson said he wants to give Diane some comments to add. Mrs. Yerger said get it back to Diane by the end of the week so she can sent it to Johnny.

C. READING DRIVE WOODLAND VEGETATION PLAN

Ms. Valerie Liggett from Boucher & James said they are here about the Reading Drive woodland vegetation management plan. She passed out sheets for that. A group is looking to do some invasive species removal and do some planting. They had met at the site and looked at th site. She has been working with them to try and get together a plan for what they wanted to do as far as the invasive species removal and the planting. Originally and this was discussed last time, there was going to be a meadow area on the site and it was determined that there was no water on the site, and no water spigot on the site.

Present were Linda Frederick, Ms. Ilse Stoll and Maryann Snyder. Ms. Liggett said this was the plan that they had come up with and the changes made were basically changes that when they submitted the plan to her. The changes were made to get the plan to conform with what the Township would need as far as the vegetation management plan. They are looking to see if the EAC has any questions or a recommendation to send it on to Council for approval so they can get started with what they want to do on the site.

Mrs. Yerger said her recommendation is that anybody who wants to get rid of invasives has her blessing.

Mr. Maxfield said from listening to Terry Boos and talking to Ms. Liggett before, there are some areas that are steep slopes and those areas have invasives on them.

Mr. Boos said when they went out on the site walk last week, what you are referring to is the map that Valier had sent back and he had a rebuttal for the last month. On the site, and the map that was submitted, don't actually meet together, so the actual site walk is different than what the map layout appears to be so that the steep slopes aren't even encountered, so that's not an issue. Mr. Maxfield said with the steep slopes, they wanted to know what are we going to do with erosion if there is multiflora rose, you are going to have to dig the heck out of it. Ms. Liggett said the method probably would be continued cutting. What would be happening at this point would just be the vegetation removal and planting. The trail would be happening at a different time. They are looking at is just the vegetation portion of it. Even if there would be vegetation on the steep slopes, it would probably be okay as they wouldn't be disturbing those steep slope areas.

Mrs. Yerger asked the three women present to come up front if they wanted to speak. Ms. Frederick said they would like to see everything including the meadow happen as it's very dear to their hearts. Maybe they feel they haven't had an opportunity to share this and it has to start with whether you feel it's a valuable project or not? Everything could be worked out if there's a commitment to do this kind of project in the Township.

Ms. Frederick said all three of them are Master Gardeners from Penn State, herself, Ms. Stoll and Maryann Snyder. Roger Jurczak is from the Rail Trail and Terry Boos is involved as he's connected with the Watershed Group. They are a little disappointed that the meadow isn't included. Ms. Stoll can talk about the meadow because there are several that have been done. They have pictures of the one done in South Bethlehem along the greenway, a couple of seasons of what happened from planting for the first 15 months with no source of water there.

Ms. Stoll said they essentially carried two buckets of water in their car, and drove it to the greenway as there is no source of water. There is a water buffalo. Ms. Frederick said you can see from installation to 15 months later how the project developed. Ms. Stoll said this is essentially right after the planting. They planted right in the compost. They watered for the first two weeks. If it rains, you don't need to water.

Mrs. Yerger said it's her understanding that the trail project itself is on hold. Ms. Liggett said yes. Mrs. Yerger said there are some issues with ADA accessibility. Ms. Liggett said it's not so much the ADA accessibility, it's the Township would need to construct a trail, so that would have to wait until a later time until there's funding is lined up and the PW has the time to do it. It can't happen right now. Mrs. Yerger said the way she's looking at it would be, do we have a definitive area where the trail is going to evolve, not evolve? She knows what happened when they did the park and she knows it was easier to put the trail in first, then worry about the vegetation and how to groom it and plant it.

Ms. Liggett said in this situation, it would probably be okay and easier to work with the vegetation the way we are looking at doing it. Mrs. Yerger said she doesn't know how much everybody else

caught, can she go down the bullet list and recommendations Boucher & James are making for this site. Ms. Liggett said the recommendation based on her conversations with Jack and the issues that had presented themselves based on that there's no water source at the site, there was a concern whether there would be adequate water to establish the plants and the meadow. Issues in the vegetation management plan. The plant list presented in the plan is good. They did take out the meadow portions of that. Any additional plant material, they would need to be notified ahead of time and that would need approval. The woodland area invasive plants would be removed but the invasive plant removal calendar, all debris would have to be removed from the site. Any trees to be removed from the site would be removed by Township Public Works (PW) as their work schedule would permit and that would be determined jointly by the Director of PW, a representative of the Committee and a representative from Boucher & James. For volunteer work, the Township and Boucher & James would need periodic updates on progress of the site and any issues, an idea of what's going on at the site. Then if there are any days there are going to be a large number of volunteers, the Township would need to know so they would be aware of that. For the invasive removal calendar, changes on there are symbols for the chemical treatment were removed because chemical treatment wouldn't be permitted at the site by volunteers. If chemical treatment would be needed, application would have to be made from the Township for them to hire someone with an applicator license and the same thing would be for power tool use, as needed. Public Works (PW) would be needed for that. Hand pulling would be the approved method or weed wrench, hand clippers or other tools like that. All vegetation would have to be removed from the site. PW may be available to help remove debris, but that would depend on their work schedule. Vegetation should be bagged if it could possibly re-root or have seeds, branches would not have to be bagged. Those are the high points. The site is at the Reading Drive Trailhead site at Bingen Road and Reading Drive.

Mrs. Yerger said right now Ms. Liggett is recommending the invasive plant removal at this time. Ms. Liggett said invasive plant removal and planting on the site based on the plant list that's in here where they took out the invasives. Ms. Frederick said that doesn't make any sense as the plants on that list are specifically for meadow. They are sun loving plants. They were the meadow plants. They were really asking to be stewards of this plot of land. They wanted to identify a site where they could attempt to see what's there in terms of native plants, remove invasives in a slow way. If they do it all at once, they are going to have erosion issues. They have identified some lovely ferns, and some really spots of winter green. They are excited about some of the plants in the woodlands. They were looking at the woodland site as an evolving location to begin a project of slow removal, potentially education of the public down the line. They have received grant money through the Penn State Master Gardner program. The plants at the top of the list they have actually purchased, but fortunately, Ms. Stoll runs a native plant sale and those can fold over into her plant sale if you don't approve the meadow. They feel they can do the meadow. They certainly don't want to work with a group who is not going to be supportive of it. They would hope you would be there if they need some things from the Township. They are pretty self sufficient in running. They are not asking for money. They are looking to educate the public. They are looking to establish a very lovely meadow as if you go there now all you will see is dead stilt grass from last year and she'll guarantee that's what you are going to get this year. Even if they would put in two plants, the Milkweeds, which the Monarchs love, which never get any water, there's a chance they will grow and you've got something better than what you have right now. She doesn't want to bring something to the Township if there isn't any support of it. Ms. Snyder said Ms. Stoll and Linda have done one in South Bethlehem, there's one at the Da Vinci Center, Sand Island, and other places in the surrounding community where this has worked. Ms. Frederick said Ms. Stoll actually is in the Wildlife Federation publications, she's on blogs. The criticism of these meadows is that they look like weed patches. First of all, like Maryann said, anything we put there will look better than the stilt grass. She's learned so much through working with Ms. Stoll how you make a bio diverse native planting really beautiful. The one on the greenway is really a beautiful thing. We also have plantings in Sand Island.

Ms. Stoll said the watering is not an issue because you only need water in order to establish the plant. It's not a vegetable garden where you will need water in order to have your tomatoes grow through a drought. Whatever is not surviving in a drought area will not survive in the meadow, so they will not have that. They will only have plants there that are self sustaining, but they are native to this area so that addresses the water issue. The other issue is about not having a plant list that is totally defined. If they are going to have something dry up in that area, do they need to report that, what is the mechanism of why would you even need to know in order for them to present something that is educational and beautiful at the same time? Ms. Frederick said it seemed cumbersome to them for that reason. What she did provide was a document from Schuylkill and Chester County, what is a very, very complete list of native plants they have adopted that they would choose from that list. If that list is approved, they could say they will pretty much not plant anything other than that. The original document she wrote had a link to some townships have common areas, open space, are restricting it to native planting. They are just asking for permission to use their judgment as they begin this project and they have the plants on the list, they will have in their possession next Monday. They are only meadow plants. Those would be for the meadow. If they aren't doing the meadow, they can use them in other places and other ways. It's for all of you to decide.

Mrs. Yerger said their biggest dilemma here is they don't know the size of the area, what it looks like. We don't have anything and don't have any context for this. Ms. Frederick said she has pictures. Mr. Boos said the meadow area is about 550 square feet. Ms. Frederick said they may have to reduce that. Mr. Boos said it's approximately 15'x40'.

Ms. Stoll said the area they are talking about for the meadow along Bingen and Reading Road is about half tree size of what they established in South Bethlehem, the one you are looking at right now. Mr. Germanoski said is 500 square feet the rough estimate of the plot? Mr. Boos said correct. Mr. Germanoski said he doesn't mean to be short or curt, but this just strikes him as a rather simple decision. It seems like we have diligent people with expertise that want to remove invasive species and replace them with native plants and if it were a 1,000 square feet, he'd say so much the better. He's not sure what we need to do but if there are negatives to this, somebody needs to point them out to him as he just doesn't see them.

Ms. Liggett said their primary concern and it has happened before with the Township is that with other volunteer projects, they end up fizzling out and then the Township ends up managing these projects later on, especially with their not being a source of water on the site, then there's no guarantee. Mr. Germanoski said if the main loss is it goes back to where it is now, we haven't lost anything. He asked if we needed a motion or what is the appropriate action? Mrs. Yerger said it's going to be your recommendation.

Mr. Maxfield said reservations from the Township will definitely be what Val said, these projects in the past tend to fizzle and establishing it is one thing, but when we vote on something like this, if we're establishing a meadow or trail, it's going to be long term. He doesn't see as a problem with the meadow at all like Mr. Germanoski said. If it goes back, it goes back. He does have reservations about the trail idea, but not the meadow. Do you want to remove invasives and develop the meadow all at the same time, woodland invasives? Ms. Stoll said you want to mow down the area, and then you want to sheet mulch it. Sheet mulching you take newspaper or cardboard and you put it on top of the invasive species and you would put that directly over your stilt grass, seedlings or whatever, then you put about 4" of seed free compost on top of that. You plant right in the compost. You put your landscape plugs. The reason why they chose a meadow over a native garden is it fits in the landscape a lot easier and you only need to mow it down once in March. You leave all the heads of the perennials there and all the grasses and it looks quite beautiful. She doesn't know if you've seen the greenway pictures, they are being passed around. She showed a fall picture of the meadow. It looks beautiful compared to what you presently have there.

Mrs. Yerger said as Mr. Maxfield alluded to was year two, year three, year four. If we are going to start a project, how do we make sure it carries through? There will be loss from nutrition just like any other garden, probably not as much as they are meant to be there. There are native for a reason. She's suspecting that is one of the concerns. Ms. Frederick said she and Terry Boos met with Jack Cahalan last week and they did speak about this as he mentioned the garden you have at the side of your building and the story of how that evolved. There was a time when it was an embarrassment to the Township and all of that. She can understand that because lawn has this kind of neutrality about it and no one is offended about it unless someone doesn't like the dandelions, but there's an aesthetic that is okay with people. This is a site that is very different. It's just brushy, weeds, along the side of the road, back from the road so they won't be interfering with visibility from drivers. Mrs. Yerger said you can't be in the right-of-way. Mr. Boos said even if it's in the right-of-way, they are not restricting the right-of-way. Mrs. Yerger said she doesn't want to see it run over either. Ms. Frederick said once a year it will be run over on purpose. It's not like a flower bed. They will get out there and will have volunteer groups for the first few years, but if in five or ten years, this is just something that is left to be what it is, it's going to be way better than it is now. Natives like being here. They are native to the area, the birds will be happy. There are many benefits to it even if it's short term, but even if it dies out in ten years, and we're run over again by invasive species, we're no worse off than we are now. She doesn't think it's ever going to be an eyesore anymore than it's an eyesore right now.

Ms. Snyder said the wonderful thing was when they were out on the site visit, everybody knows Terry Boos and people were stopping by and saying if you ever need any help on this, let them know. That was just amazing to see with your community that they are so invested in this trail. Some were saying they are walking this trail every day. That would be a nice thing to see. There's also signage that Penn State is willing to provide to have two informational signs there that Erin Frederick is looking into getting money for that. It could be a nice little educational place for people could picnic, stop and just hang out a little bit.

Ms. Liggett said her comment about needing prior approval for the landscaping plan, she will still be very adamant about that. Ms. Frederick asked what was her concern? Ms. Liggett said the Township needs to know what's getting planted on their property. Ms. Frederick said why does Bethlehem not need to know what Ms. Stoll puts in the greenway. She doesn't understand that. It's a very visible place and trusting her as a Master Gardener that she knows what she is doing. Ms. Liggett said no one else in the Township gets to do that. It's not just you, it's Township policy. Ms. Frederick said what if you had community gardens? Ms. Liggett said it would be the same for anyone. Mr. Maxfield said we'd want to know what's going on.

Ms. Stoll said could we occasionally, a couple times a year do an inventory and just send them email saying these are the plants we presently have in the meadow. Would that be acceptable? The reason why she feels uncomfortable about your statement is the viability of a native plant if somebody says okay, I know have an excess of black-eyed Susan's, can I take them down to the meadow and we say yes, but the approval process may take how long. Ms. Liggett said all you would have to do is email her and she would probably respond within an hour. Mr. Boos said he will take it upon himself if need be and it's not an effort from his end that he will be in communication with Valerie for whatever plant stock they had in mind to put in or remove. They will be in constant contact so there should not be any issues in communication.

Mr. Maxfield said you guys have worked out a relationship with Valerie, working with her, but you need to also contact Jack. Mr. Boos said of course, they will contact Valerie, Jack and whoever needs to see it, but everybody will be informed and get their prior approval before they do anything.

Mr. Maxfield said the meadow itself seems to be important. He doesn't know if there are any real reservations to not having a meadow. He doesn't see that as a problem. When it needs to be

mowed once a year, would you be responsible for mowing it? If it's one more thing we tell the Township they don't have to do, that would be wonderful. Right now they don't have to go in there and do anything. Ms. Frederick said instead of mowing, what they did was they had two crews two Saturday's and they went to the greenway and they had pruning shears and had six people and in 1-1/2 hours everything was cut back and it looked great. They were at Sand Island with a crew of 7 for 3 hours and everything was cut back. Mr. Maxfield said it's something the Township doesn't have to do. The maintenance of it will be your responsibility. He agrees with Dru and doesn't think there's a problem to it right now. It's your effort and your loss and our loss if it fails, but he doesn't see that we lose anything as a Township or as citizens.

Ms. Frederick said she does notice that the list has some things crossed off and she's asking why that is? Ms. Liggett said the Turtle Head you had on there is southeastern United States, not native to PA. The grasses that you had on there was part of the meadow although she would prefer if you didn't have the switch grass as it will get really tall and may be a security issue since that's between the drive and the picnic area. That's going to get up to 6' tall. She would prefer that didn't go back in.

Mrs. Yerger said this is what she's hearing. Whoever needs to do this, whether it's the ladies or Terry Boos, take the plot, measure it out, do an approximate of what you are going to plant this, this, and this. Send it to Val, send it to Jack and go from there. If that's what you have and that gets approved, then she would be in favor of this project with the proviso that they also then indicate to Jack and give him assurance and the rest of the Township that what's going to happen in the fall when it gets cut back. Tell him what's going to happen. She does think whether you are going to put the low ones in the front and the high ones in the back, or on the sides, you have to plot it out for reassurance for the Township and because it's a public site. Plot it out and get it to the Township for review and she thinks and hoping we addressed some of the concerns. You have to take a pencil and draw out the area and where you are going to put plants, identify the plants. Ms. Stoll said you are talking about 200 plants, to be put in that area. Mrs. Yerger said put an x that you are doing 26 of this, 20 of these, etc. If you're off by one, two, three, it's going to take you a lot less time than when you are actually doing it. Ms. Stoll said it's going to be totally random otherwise it is not going to be a meadow, it's going to be a nursery. Ms. Frederick said they are not landscaping. Ms. Stoll said they are trying to create a natural area. Mrs. Yerger said she understands that, whether you decide to put nothing in that's over 12", pick from that. Have a low meadow. Maybe it's not the perfect setting, but to your point, it will sure as heck beat still grass. It will still be an educational component and it will address any issues when it comes to visibility or security. Give a list of plants and approximately how many. Ms. Liggett isn't going to come out there and count every plant. Then we need your general maintenance. Mr. Maxfield said we seem to be making more of this than it really is. Mrs. Yerger said you're right, how do we want to handle this?

Mr. Maxfield said what he heard from staff and Ms. Liggett, part of the problem in the initial problem was communication. He thinks we have that worked out. It is township maintained and township property at this point in time, so the township needs to know what's going on there. When it comes to laying out the meadow, if you have a 500' square area and your picnic table is over here, you want to put your milkweeds in the back. Divide it into zones, just a general kind of idea of what's going on. He knows it is a pain to communicate and put a finger on exactly what you are doing, but the Township needs to know that for any number of reasons. That's just the way it is, we are a public trust.

Ms. Stoll said if we would eliminate the switch grass and keep plants to this height or less, and we would essentially draw a random distribution of our plants that we have on order, some plants cannot be planted until fall. We would essentially send you an email. Ms. Liggett said that's fine. We're not so concerned on when you need to plant them, that's fine. Mr. Maxfield said if there were any issues about security, anywhere, you guys will work that out.

Mr. Germanoski said what's the Township doing with this parcel right now? How are we managing that? What might grow there? He's missing the point. If he were to make a motion, he'd say go wild and we'll start looking for other places to set you lose on in the meantime. Maybe he's being frivolous, but he doesn't get this. Ms. Frederick said they won't be near any of the picnic tables. It's very close to the edge of the woods. She was there today. It's so separated from the traffic. Go down and look at it. It's at the corner of the picnic area by the road. Mr. Maxfield said this is the only access that Lower Saucon has to the rail trail; everything else is Upper Saucon or Hellertown. Ms. Frederick said it would make a very beautiful presentation for the Lower Saucon section.

Ms. Ray said go plant it, that's way too much red tape that we just went through. She said she will make a motion.

MOTION BY: Ms. Ray moved to recommend to Council that the meadow planting and invasive removal at the trailhead within the parameters so defined above, which means that they have to send a plant list to Jack and Valerie, that Ms. Frederick, Ms. Stoll and Ms. Snyder spoke about, go forward, with approval from the Township.

Ms. Ray said if they disapprove this, there's a problem. She doesn't know why they would. Ms. Frederick asked for one more listing of the expectations. Mr. Maxfield said when we did the native plant garden here, Hans Riemann came to us with a general plan which was rectangular and had a path, had the plants in it, and that was fine. Mrs. Yerger said the plant list you are going to put in there. Give them ten plants and if you use six out of them, wonderful.

SECOND BY: Mr. Germanoski

ROLL CALL: 6-0 (Mr. Hijazi – Absent)

Ms. Frederick asked for a time table what the approval process would be? Mr. Maxfield said if you have something ready to go, it can go to Council. The next meeting is next Wednesday, April 16th and he can even bring it up under his reports.

Ms. Ray said this is ridiculous, you could have built a house and put in a septic system easier.

D. RECOMMENDATION FOR BASELINE REPORTS

Mrs. Yerger said she understand Allan and Dru took a look at the baseline reports. Mr. Germanoski said two meetings ago there was some data information on standard cost associated with them. He looked at the reports today and has some sense of what's in the reports, but he doesn't know what the relative cost benefit is. Mrs. Yerger said Natural Lands Trust ran from \$5,000.00 to \$5,500.00. Wildlands was \$1,800.00 to \$2,000.00 and Heritage was \$1,200.00 to \$1,600.00. Mr. Germanoski said Natural Trust was the highest. In his reading of the reports, they had a lot of former boiler plate general stuff that had no value. He thought Wildlands or Heritage were both suitable. If they are the lower costs, he would be fine with either of those two. Ms. Ray said that Natural Lands Trust is a lot of fluff for the money. Mrs. Yerger said so we're fine with Wildlands or Heritage whichever is most cost effective. Mr. Johnson said Heritage is our default unless somebody else does the baseline or the landowner requests someone else or if Wildlands becomes the owner of the easement.

MOTION BY: Mr. Johnson moved to recommend to Council that after careful review, the EAC recommends that by default, the baseline should be done by Heritage Conservancy unless the landowner and/or requests a different entity or that the other land conservancy would be the co-holder of the easement for that particular parcel.

SECOND BY: Mr. Germanoski

ROLL CALL: 6-0 (Mr. Hijazi – Absent)

E. UPDATE OF CONSERVED PROPERTIES MAP

Mrs. Yerger said most of you have a copy of the map. She requested we add the park lands in a different color so we show open spaces that are adjacent to existing park lands already like Polk Valley Park and also the Borough of Hellertown owns a considerable amount of tracts of land, their watershed protection area and the reservoir, so that should go into a third color. Also add the Rail Trail in color as well as it's park lands. The new map should be brought back to the next meeting.

MOTION BY: Mrs. Yerger moved to request our Zoning Officer, Chris Garges, who did a great job with the Township open space map, to add in another color of other open spaces including the Township parks like Polk Valley Park and also the Saucon Rail Trail. Hellertown Borough owns a considerable amount of tracts of land, their watershed protection area and the reservoir which should go into a third color.

SECOND BY: Mr. Beardsley

ROLL CALL: 6-0 (Mr. Hijazi- Absent)

IV. DEVELOPER ITEMS

A. MACARRO LOT LINE ADJUSTMENT – 3631 DRIFTING DRIVE, HELLERTOWN

Mrs. Yerger said there's a lot line change to make it a non-conforming lot. There are no environmental issues, so the EAC has no comment.

V. UPDATES/REPORTS

A. ADOPT-A-ROAD – SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2014 @ 9:00 AM

Mrs. Yerger we have our adopt-a-road on April 26, 2014. Please let Diane know if you will be able to help.

B. NATIVE PLANT SALE – SUNDAY, JUNE 22, 2014 @ SV FARMER'S MARKET

Mrs. Yerger on June 22, 2014 is our native plant sale. More information to follow closer to the date.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MARCH 11, 2014 MINUTES

Mr. Johnson said page 3 of 10, line 46, change "steel" to "**steep**". Page 4 of 10, line 3, take out the word "does". It should read "How much distance do you need between". Page 6 of 10, line 29, the word "confined" should be "**confirmed**". Page 7 of 10, line 33, the first word "burned" should be "**burden**".

MOTION BY: Mr. Beardsley moved for approval of the March 11, 2014 minutes, with corrections.

SECOND BY: Mr. Johnson

ROLL CALL: 6-0 (Mr. Hijazi – Absent)

VII. OLD/MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

- Mr. Johnson said he attended the Northampton County EAC meeting that was held in March. He obtained two documents that he made prints of. One is the list of the Steering Committee members and the other is the survey they are requesting people to fill out. He handed the survey out. Mrs.

Yerger said bring it back to the next meeting. They are trying to get a handle on open space, parks, recreation, what's important to the residents of Northampton County.

- Mrs. Yerger is going to send Laura Ray a document she found on the best way to kill bamboo which in some areas in the Township is an incredible invasive. It's actually vinegar, you cut the bamboo and treat the ground with vinegar and it's not round up, which doesn't even work on it anyway. She wanted Laura Ray to post it on the EAC website. Mr. Maxfield said there's an industrial vinegar you can buy to put it on the bamboo also. You can probably get it at the restaurant supply store in Allentown.
- The EAC asked Ms. Palik to get in touch with Mary Elizabeth Anthony to find out what is going on with the Native Plant Garden.
- Mr. Beardsley said he sent a memo to the Open Space Committee to go see the Petrie property. He gave a bunch of Saturday and Sunday dates. He skipped Easter. He suggests they go on April 26th after the road clean-up. That way we don't take two Saturday's. Let him know when you can go and he'll let Mr. Petrie know. It's a pretty big property.
- Mr. Germanoski said he won't be at the next meeting, but Zack wants to be on the agenda as he's graduating and he wants to give his final report.

VIII. TERRY BOOS – HELLERTOWN REPRESENTATIVE

- Mr. Boos said Hellertown received the last grant they were waiting on from the Monroe County Casino monies. Now the Water Street improvement project is now fully funded. They are going to be starting on that project some time this summer. It will be phased in. His understanding is the Saucon Valley Farmers Market will still be in the same location and as the other phases proceed that the market location would be adjusted as needed.

IX. NON-AGENDA ITEMS/PUBLIC COMMENT – None

X. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY: Ms. Ray moved for adjournment. The time was 9:25 P.M.
SECOND BY: Mr. Maxfield
ROLL CALL: 6-0 (Mr. Hijazi – Absent)

Sandra Yerger, Chair