

I. OPENING

CALL TO ORDER: The Environmental Advisory Council meeting of Lower Saucon Township Council was called to order on Tuesday, May 11, 2010 at 7:00 P.M., at 3700 Old Philadelphia Pike, Bethlehem, PA, with Tom Maxfield, Vice Chairman, presiding.

ROLL CALL:

Members: Vice Chairman, Tom Maxfield; Colin Guerra, Ted Beardsley, Allan Johnson, Laura Ray. Absent: Chairman, Sandra Yerger and Hazem Hijazi.

Associate Members: Chiharu Tokura, Dru Germanoski, Karen Dancho and Tom McCormick. Absent: Glenn Kaye

Planner: Kevin Kochanski – Boucher & James – Absent

Hellertown Liaison: Terry Boos – Absent

Jr. EAC Member: Sara Cote

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. OPEN SPACE SUB-COMMITTEE

A. PROPERTY UPDATES

1. CHARLES MARTIN – 2256 SILVER CREEK ROAD – SITE EVALUATION

Mr. Beardsley said he, Allan and Colin went out to look at the Martin property and they want to recommend it for consideration. He had some questions, many of which can be answered by Chris Garges when we get some actual measurements on how to make it work. The thing they ran into in trying to evaluate this was that the Open Space Action plan is heavily prejudiced toward environmentally sensitive areas and sort of gives lip service to developable properties and agriculture. We're making a recommendation that is in this memo that our Planner's revisit the Open Space Plan and address some of these issues because the Martin property should have scored higher. It's easily developable. It's a hay field. You could put ten houses in there with no trouble at all. One of the things that the Open Space program was sold to the public on was it was going to help take the developable properties out. The Open Space Plan does not really address that. You have to be cautious how you do that. There's a memo to that affect saying we are recommending it. There is also a map showing Mr. Martin's property and the Open Space Checklist. On the back of the memo are the questions that Mr. Martin has that are mostly to be answered by Chris Garges. There's one that says, "will the land owned by Charlie in the pipe easement be included in the conservation easement? If the pipeline easement is not part of the conservation easement, will visitors to the conserved land be able to cross over the pipeline easement?" Certainly they will. It's not really an issue as Charlie still owns it. It's just an easement for a pipeline so he owns the surface. They just have the right to come in and maintain their pipe. Mr. Martin is also worried about liability, but we have a letter from our attorney saying there is no liability, which he will get from Jack Cahalan. Mr. Martin is also concerned if the pipeline company comes back and wants to take additional property on either side of their current easement, and they have to pay for it, who gets the money? Do we get it or does he get it or do we split it? Mr. Beardsley doesn't know the answer to that question. Mr. McCormick said he knows the answer to that. It's whatever the parties agree to. If you agreed that he would be entitled to anything in that regard, you would presumably pay him less. If you said "oh no, we want the right to have all future cash flows, if any" and you would presumably pay him more. It's probably a very small dollar amount either way because the likelihood of it happening is limited because it's likely that the pipeline company did what they reasonably expected to

do already. The parties can agree to that either way. When you buy the rights to development, you could further add the rights to future considerations for easements with the pipeline or you could specifically say no, we're buying the development rights, but you are retaining the rights to any future pipeline. It's either way, but the dollar amount, it would probably not matter much. Mr. Beardsley said those are basically his questions. Mr. Maxfield said your action now from the Committee is to recommend it for Council's further consideration to look further into these things. Mr. Beardsley said he thinks what we need to do before it goes to appraisal is sit down with Chris Garges as some of the questions Mr. Martin has, we need Chris to help. Mr. Maxfield said you probably may need Attorney Treadwell's opinion also on some of them. Mr. Beardsley said right. In the meantime, Mr. Beardsley should get a hold of Charlie Martin so they can sit down with Chris. Mr. McCormick asked if Attorney Treadwell or Attorney Clemons was assigned to Martin? Mr. Maxfield said we did not assign anyone. Ms. Ray said it would make more sense to have Terry Clemons do it. We are assigning the properties by date. We could get a legal opinion about the easement from the gas company. The process is if we need legal work on this particular application now on in, we'll probably have to get it from Terry Clemons, like to write the easement. Mr. McCormick why would we spend money on either lawyer until Council decides if it's worthy of appraisal? Mr. Maxfield said absolutely. That is in the normal course. Mr. Beardsley said he still needs to sit down with Chris and fix the map the way it is to be so we know what we are appraising and that will eliminate some of the questions also. Mr. Maxfield asked if they thought they could get it done by the next EAC meeting so we could recommend it to Council for an appraisal? Mr. Beardsley said sure. Mr. Maxfield said he's also interested in the statement, "it should have scored higher per developability". You are saying this gives the developability of the property more weight? Mr. Beardsley said yes. The checklist that we use doesn't ask enough questions about developable property. If it asked more questions that we could answer, then it would have scored higher. The scores are just yes and no, but if there are wetlands and steep slopes, you get lots of yeses. If you have developable land, you get one yes. Mr. McCormick said you think this one has high conservation value? Mr. Beardsley said the development content is high. Mr. McCormick said beyond that it has natural resources? Mr. Beardsley said yes. Mr. Maxfield said we could ask staff to forward the memo to Council. Mr. Beardsley said sure.

MOTION BY: Mr. Maxfield moved that the Open Space Subcommittee's memo of May 11, 2010, specifically about the Charles Martin property, the EAC recommends that it be sent on to Council for consideration.

SECOND BY: Ms. Ray

ROLL CALL: 5-0 (Mrs. Yerger & Mr. Hijazi – Absent)

MOTION BY: Mr. Beardsley moved to request Council to ask our Planners, Boucher & James, to re-examine the Open Space Plan in relation to agricultural and developable properties.

SECOND BY: Mr. Johnson

ROLL CALL: 5-0 (Mrs. Yerger & Mr. Hijazi – Absent)

2. ROBERT GRIFFITH – 1484 CONCORD LANE – SITE EVALUATION

Mr. Beardsley said he has nothing on Bob Griffith. Ms. Palik said the reason it's on the agenda is because at the February 16, 2010 EAC meeting, Mr. Beardsley stated that he spoke to Mr. Griffith and the Open Space Subcommittee was going to hold off on the site evaluation until the weather got nicer, then they were going to go back and look at his property. Mr. Beardsley said he's next on the list, but they haven't gotten there yet. Ms. Palik said the same with the Kerecz property, which is right next to Mr. Griffith's property, and then also the Benner property. Mr. Maxfield said those should be scheduled some time soon. Mr. Beardsley said yes.

Mr. McCormick said he had one quick comment on the Open Space Plan. He happened to bump into Mr. Horiszny at the Open House at Se-Wy-Co and Mr. Horiszny mentioned he had been contacted regarding land that is actually adjacent to White Acre with a Bingen Road address, but he doesn't know that for sure. If everyone knows where White Acre's is, it's by Bingen and proceeds north and then curves, and there is a large swap of land in a hollow, basically bounded by the Black River and the Saucon Creek Watershed to the north and south. Mr. Horiszny told Mr. McCormick that he had heard that the owner of that land is not the White Acre's HOA. The owner of the land was interested in seeking possible conservation easement because it's a very attractive piece of land and has a lot of habitat and wildlife there. Mr. Horiszny didn't give him the name, but maybe Mr. Maxfield could find out who it is. Mr. Maxfield said sure.

III. NEW BUSINESS – None

IV. DEVELOPER ITEMS

A. 2202 WASSERGASS ROAD LAND DEVELOPMENT #LD 05-05 & SITE PLAN #SP 02-05 (REVIEW FOR SPECIAL EXCEPTION #SE-02-08)

Mr. Maxfield said this is the old school on Wassergass. We've seen this many times in the past and are pretty familiar with it. He's been told by staff that they've made some changes in their recent application to the parking lot. He doesn't know if it's an increase in size, but their feeling was it's not any sort of significant change and would not change any of the past recommendations that we made. We do have a copy of the recommendations we made including the ones we made back on March 11. He would hope we stick with those and forward those on again. Mr. McCormick said he knows the prior contemplated use was for hotel, Iron Pigs, kind of dormitory. The current application is for a mixed office space with a medical office, etc. Was the March consideration on the new proposed use? Mr. Maxfield said yes. There were some gaps in the plans and had things on from the old plan. They are working on that and they are going through use issues and implications with the Planning Commission. Mr. McCormick said we were very concerned about septic output when it was going to be a hotel, but this has got to be good news regarding septic use from our perspective. Mr. Maxfield said part of what the Planning Commission and staff is talking about right now, is they have these office uses loosely defined and we're not really sure of the septic output of a lot of those uses. For instance, they have a broad general category for medical. Medical could be a lot of different things. We were talking about any sort of a lab, anything that would use solvents. All of that is being reviewed right now. As far as numbers, EDU's brought into being used by the septic, it's way down. Mr. Germanoski said no overnight residents. The hours were 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, it's hard to not have some activities until 6:00 PM or 7:00 PM. Mr. Maxfield said one of the things we are concerned about is because it's smack in the middle of a residential area. We want to make sure we don't have blasting lights and traffic leaving there at 10:00 PM. That's the whole idea behind it as to keep it neighborhood friendly. The office use could be real good and we might as well use that building as long as we have certain controls in place.

Mr. Johnson asked Ms. Dancho what she was saying about that law? Ms. Dancho said the Underground Injection Control (UIC) program, only domestic sewage is allowed to go into a septic tank. You can't have any industrial waste. For example, lab wastes from a dentist. It's EPA federal. Mr. Maxfield said we could make an addition onto our recommendation that the applicant abide by that law just so everybody is aware that we are aware of it. Ms. Dancho said Karen Johnson runs the program out of Philadelphia.

Environmental Advisory Council
May 11, 2010

MOTION BY: Mr. Maxfield moved that we add onto our previous recommendations from the April 13, 2010 meeting that the applicant comply with the Underground Injection Control (IJC) program as monitored by the federal government, EPA.

SECOND BY: Mr. Beardsley

ROLL CALL: 5-0 (Mrs. Yerger and Mr. Hijazi – Absent)

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF APRIL 13, 2010 MINUTES

Mr. Maxfield asked if there were any corrections? Ms. Ray said page 6, line 12 should read “Most of the balloons don’t lie around. Mr. Germanoski said page 13, line 9, the word should be nominate and not dominate.

Mr. Maxfield said page 4, line 4 should read “Mr. Maxfield said he did talk to Mr. Petrie on the phone and Mr. Petrie was going to attempt to talk to the attorney of the owners of the land right next to him”.

Mr. Johnson said page 2, line 25, where it say Martin Lane, it should be Silver Creek Road. Page 4, line 25, it should read “Mr. Beardsley said maybe we don’t want him to plant. Page 4, line 37, should read “because no one knows for sure. Page 4, line 47, should read “we did something other than what we’ve already done. Page 4, line 41, instead of sew, it should be see. Page 6, line 17 should read “Mr. Kaye said we can allow them to release one representative balloon”. Ms. Palik said she needed a blank filled in on the last page. Ms. Ray said it should read about the PA Hiking Club Recreation Map.

MOTION BY: Ms. Ray moved for approval of the April 13, 2010 minutes, with corrections.

SECOND BY: Mr. Beardsley

ROLL CALL: 5-0 (Mrs. Yerger & Mr. Hijazi – Absent)

VI. OLD/MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

A. RECOMMENDATIONS ON WIND SYSTEMS AND SOLAR ENERGY REQUIREMENTS

Tabled until next month. Mr. Maxfield said he is making a sincere invitation to everyone here this evening to attend the special Council meeting on Wednesday, June 16th here at Town Hall at 4:00 PM. It’s going to be on wind systems and solar energy requirements, plus some unfinished business from our last meeting which was about the percentages of impervious coverage. If you can make, it would be great. The last meeting was on riparian issues and it was very rewarding. Mr. Johnson said it was a good meeting, but there weren’t many people there.

B. REVIEW OF DRAFT LANDOWNER ACQUISITION LETTER – MR. MCCORMICK

Mr. McCormick said last fall we approved a form of a letter to be used in connection with someone who had expressed an interest in granting a conservation easement on some or all of their land. We wrote a letter to acknowledge their willingness to talk about it and ask a series of questions that you need to ask when you are dealing with an easement such as “what activities would you continue to do” and “would there be public access”, etc., etc. Then we quickly realized that letter was perfect for easements, but wasn’t right for sale of a property. When they are selling the Township a piece of property, and we’re interested in buying it to preserve the conservation value, it’s a different discussion. There is no “what are you going to retain” or “what are you going to do”, which is pretty clear that we are going to buy it and we are going to own it. All you have to get straight with them is what portion of their land they are going to sell. It’s a much simpler discussion because then for the appraiser it’s very easy as you just tell him “this is the subject land”, so the letter is shorter and easier than the last one as that’s all it says. “Thanks for your interest, what portion of your land are we chatting about here, thank you”. Then we get to score that piece of land. We get

to recommend that Council consider buying it. Then Council negotiates a price to see if we can move forward or not. The letter is just a skimmed down version of the old letter, more applicable to a property sale. There shouldn't really be any debate about the content because every one that is still here was already reviewed. The subject on the letter we should strike "for conservation", and it should just read "Re: Potential Sale of Property to Township". We all know if we are going to use open space funds, it better be for conservation, but that doesn't have to be in the subject letter. It's very straight forward.

MOTION BY: Ms. Ray moved that the EAC recommend to Council to adopt the letter "Potential Sale of Property to Township" as the standard form to contact the homeowner in connection for possible acquisition of land under the Open Space program.

SECOND BY: Mr. Johnson

ROLL CALL: 5-0 (Mrs. Yerger & Mr. Hijazi – Absent)

VI. UPDATES/REPORTS

A. 9TH ANNUAL COMMUNITY DAY – AUGUST 21, 2010

Mr. Maxfield said Community Day is coming up on Saturday, August 21 and we have potential to use some of the Township tent space if we want to do anything with the EAC. Laura could put some flyers there about the Farmers Market, etc. If anyone is interested, let him know. If anyone wants to chat with people, they can do that too. If you have any ideas, that might generate interest to the community, that would be great. Mr. Beardsley said what about a map showing what conservation easements we put in place and land we are looking at. We could show them the Dravec property we purchased outright and we got grants, so we could do a little PR. Mr. Johnsons said we could also do the Whitetail Bowman's Club. Mr. Maxfield said we could include our parks in there. Mr. Beardsley said he was just thinking of land that was purchased with the money from the open space program. Mr. Maxfield said okay.

Mr. Maxfield said the EIT is due to run out in 2011. We might want to make a recommendation in the future on what we think the Township should do. It's going to be really tough if the economy doesn't improve to ask people to extend this tax. We got to try. Mr. Beardsley said that's why he's thinking we should show them what we've accomplished. Mr. Maxfield said we probably have to do a bigger program of getting out there and talking. Mr. McCormick said the economy is going to matter, so while he would be impressed and in vote of the EIT, on purely conservation grounds, we should absolutely take the opportunity to talk about the school savings, the number of children that would have lived in homes that would have been built if it were not for the Open Space program and how much that would have cost in garbage pickup, plowing of streets, school taxes, etc. That's what it was sold on. It's a way to do right and save money, so we shouldn't just brag up the conservation, we should brag up the savings. There wasn't much development because of the economy in the last five years, but what about the next five years and the next five years after that. We have to do that and he agrees a map showing all of the land that was conserved, that's currently being considered to being conserved, etc., would be great, but we should try to get staff, Planner, the EAC to just do it here one night and work on it. We could have Chris Garges run the site capacity numbers. The way it was sold appropriately was this is fiscally responsible, and if we find out that's not true, it was fiscally irresponsible, then we should be trying to sell it on the conservation stuff alone and maybe we lose, but we can't say it's fiscally responsible without being willing to stand behind that. If you conserve twenty acres, it doesn't matter if it was a million dollar lot or a half million dollar lot, it would have been houses that would have had kids, that would have had to go to school. There is the PA Land Trust and the private institutions probably have data on that, so we could probably use something like that. If we are going to win and convince people, this is one-quarter of one percent of your annual income which means after all the other taxes, it might be one-half percent of people's livelihood and we sold them on fiscally responsible, but we have to make that case. You're right, if we don't say anything in this economy,

people are going to read the questions like “would you like to take home more of your salary or less of your salary” and it’s going to be 100-0 that they’d like to take home more of their salary. The last time around it passed by a wide margin, but that was how many developments had crept up before hand. Now-a-days nobody is seeing that anymore. Mr. Maxfield said there weren’t hardly any foreclosures. Mr. McCormick said he thinks it’s going to be on us to sell it if we want it to pass. Mr. Maxfield said the other possibility is recognizing the right things, we might elect or make the recommendation to not pursue it for a couple of years and give people a break. He’d have to get some advice on someone who has done this sort of thing and find out is it easier to continue something that is already there or easier to stop for a little bit and start again. Mr. McCormick said your point about to whether strategically take time off and go back, those are good Council discussions, but the EAC, he just can’t fathom we would come out and say let’s not even try to do this. We should do it and put our best foot forward. Anybody can bring this up and do it. It would be more likely if Council and its EAC are recommending this referendum other than some guy named Bob, Ted or Allan. Mr. Maxfield said he’ll find out dates. Ms. Ray said we have to know by a certain time as we need time to get it on the ballot. Mr. Maxfield said he will talk to Attorney Treadwell and ask him about it. We should probably keep the program going as we aren’t going to get lower real estate prices like we got now. He’s sure the developers are waiting for the big recovery. There’s 48 homes being proposed for the golf course, and that’s more than we’ve had in a long time. Think about it and he will get some dates and we can talk about it at future meetings and have Mrs. Yerger put it on the agenda and see where we can go with it. Mr. McCormick said did we decide in August for Community Day we should make some kind of presentation. Mr. Maxfield said he likes Ted’s idea about showing people the map and put EIT on it somewhere, “your tax dollars at work”. People on a day like Community Day come and skim over things, but if we had some accompanying literature they could take home, that would be great. This will be put on the agenda for the next EAC meeting as July 9 is the deadline for registering for a booth for Community Day.

Mr. Maxfield said everyone got a new contact sheet with Dru and Karen’s information on it. There’s email on there. We can all keep in contact, via email, as long as we’re not doing votes or making motions.

B. BALLOON RELEASE BY THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS

Mr. Maxfield said we asked for information on the balloons that the Compassionate Friends want to release. The EAC received a paper with the description of the twine they were using and almost no additional information on the balloons which would make them any more environmentally safe. They are still a hazard to wildlife and to children as they have that written right on the paper they provided to the EAC. At the last meeting, Mrs. Yerger was saying they could do a butterfly release as she has a friend who sells the butterflies. This information on the butterflies will be forwarded on to the Township and they can forward it to the Compassionate Friends. They really haven’t given us the number of balloons either. Mrs. Yerger has done a couple of programs with the fellow from Bucks who releases the Monarch butterflies and it’s really beautiful. The Compassionate Friends made no other comments at all.

VII. HELLERTOWN REPRESENTATIVE – REPORT – Mr. Boos absent

VIII. NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- Ms. Palik reminded everyone about the volunteer picnic event on Monday, June 14th from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. Please let her know if you will be attending. Mr. Maxfield said it’s a good time.
- Mr. Maxfield said he wanted to let everyone know what happened with the EAC By-laws at Council. As they went through the update and voted on them last time, it was real close to what the EAC recommended. There were some good things that made sense like all the Associate terms are

one year so that if we plug Associates into a voting position, we don't have to mess around with a term that is two or three years and coming in contact with a term that there is one year left. Now all the Associates are year to year. We have now officially increased our numbers to twelve - seven voting and five Associates. It was agreed that the Manager will make all recommendations. He solicits the opinion of the EAC as far as members and appointments and Council will vote on all members, including Associates. Now it's official. Mr. Johnson asked if it was going to be typed up and distributed back to us? Mr. Maxfield said yes. They would like a copy of the by-laws for the next meeting. There may be a new resolution in the works that will rescind the old resolution about the by-laws. So we may have to create a new resolution that accepts the new by-laws. The old resolution was pretty specific about numbers. Ms. Ray would like to put the by-laws on the EAC website. Mr. Maxfield said that was a good idea and she's doing a good job with the website.

- Mr. Germanoski said he was reading through the material and somewhere someone said it would be nice to have a map of natural resources in the Township. One thing he can bring to this committee is they run a GIS class every Fall and he has anywhere from one to five students a year do projects for Townships and so forth. Their GIS person is really good with communicating with Townships where they can interface everything so the overlays fit seamlessly in. If there are resources and things that this Committee might find useful by adding way of overlays for the GIS database, they always have students looking to do those sorts of projects and the students really do fine work. They've done it for watershed associations, for environmental education centers, for Townships. They've done work for Jacobsburg Park. It would be nice to pull their resources together and put them into a database and just brainstorm. Students get service learning out of it also. Mr. Johnson said we haven't even come up with a database of natural resources yet, all we have are areas. We don't have individual resources labeled like springs, streams, certain areas that are important for one reason or another, individual items like Mr. Germanoski is talking about. Mr. Germanoski said they do things like water resources, springs, for wellhead protection. Mr. McCormick said the Open Space plan mentioned them. Mr. Johnson said they are not specific items. It's just general areas. Mr. McCormick said one of them says steep slopes, so steep slopes are blue, etc. They are not integrated into one map. Mr. Johnson said he thinks he's talking about specific items. Mr. Germanoski said anything the Committee feels is useful, we could brainstorm about that. Mr. Johnson said like wetlands, we never identified the wetlands, the vernal pools. Mr. Maxfield said things we have been talking about for years are the wetlands we see on the County maps, with a 10,000 square foot cutoff. Our ordinance goes much lower than that. We don't have any sort of inventory for vernal pools or smaller wetlands and a lot of tribs aren't even on there. Mr. Germanoski said that would be a kind of thing that would work out very well and the new photo coverage's are coming out with so much more resolution. They just heard from the Director of PA Geological Survey about the new data that is supposed to be coming available. There are just new resources popping up all the time. He would be happy to get some students to work on some projects and it would be mutually beneficial. Certainly the hydrology and the hydrologic resources are a natural. Mr. Johnson said you are saying if we give your students the data, they could put it on the layer of a GIS and then that layer could be included in the layers that our Township uses. Mr. Germanoski said absolutely. When you get the right student, we could even have them do field work, go out and take pictures of springs and click on the feature and pop up image. They are really doing good things. Mr. Johnson said we have Chris Garges who is the GIS guy and also the Zoning Officer. Mr. Germanoski said they would work with him to make sure everything could be interfaced. They could just drop it from their site to Chris Garges and put it in the Township database. Think about it and he'd be happy to float projects next year. Mr. Maxfield said that would be great and a good idea. We could map some of those streams that we know are there, but don't show up on the maps at all.
- Ms. Palik asked how the recycling event went? Ms. Ray said they didn't get as much as they usually do, but it was good. She was not emailed the information yet, but she'd like to put it on the EAC website. Ms. Tokura said there is a certificate program, called E-Stewards, which shows they

are recycling it responsibly and not just dumping it. Mr. Johnson said there is a company in the valley that has all of those certifications and they normally deal with big corporations, so they have to have it. He took a monitor to Best Buy and they gave him a \$10 gift certificate, so that program does work. Mr. Beardsley said there will be another recycling event in the Fall.

- Mr. Maxfield said he did happen to see a copy of the new pamphlet this year on Resources for Sustainable Communities. Ms. Tokura said she received copies today and she brought them to the EAC meeting this evening. The booklet is called “Organizations that Promote Sustainable Communities 2010”. They update this every year so if you have any information you want to put in the booklet, let her know. Mr. Maxfield said it is really, really good this year and it has everything. Ms. Ray said Martin puts all of this on their website, so anything that changes during the year, is on there somewhere.
- Ms. Ray mentioned the bus tour in June for sustainable sites in the Lehigh Valley. Mr. Maxfield said he thinks the information is just beginning to come out. It will probably be two busses that go to ten different sites. He will find out more information as Keri is putting together the itinerary, so he will bring that information next meeting. Ms. Ray said she has a pdf file of the brochure and has all the sites on there. It will be on a weekday.
- Ms. Tokura said do we have any information on fertilizer for local residents? Mr. Maxfield said not that he’s aware of. We kind of relied on Bob Davis when he was here and also Colin Guerra for information on some of these things. Ms. Tokura said it would be nice to have a brochure that the EAC could publish. What the fertilizer does, etc. Mr. Guerra said he has lots of general information he can email and scan in for everybody. Ms. Dancho said nitrogen and phosphorous are big things. With the treatment plant, when things are upgraded, they wanted you to have nitrogen and phosphorous removal. Mr. Guerra said phosphorus is the big one. Ms. Dancho said nitrogen too because you make that when you have ammonia removed. It’s not coming in the plant, but it’s leaving. You just can’t upgrade your plant, you need a whole new plant. It’s a big topic with the DBRC. Mr. Guerra said nitrogen moves through the soil with water. Once phosphorous is attached to the soil, it’s immobile. It probably does much more environmental damage than nitrogen. He will get some information together. Mr. Maxfield said he thought lawn chemistry is having major impact. Mr. Guerra said they are doing work with the Philadelphia Horticultural Society in Philadelphia for sustainable methods of horticultural practices. A lot of things are moving more towards organic products. Products that are more natural and improve the soil structure as opposed to supercharging your lawn to green it in two days. There’s a big movement to that especially in the larger, urban areas. Once you can improve that soil, the difference is amazing. You have less disease. Mr. Maxfield asked about organic fertilizers and if they break up the soil? Mr. Guerra said they improve the structure of the soil. If the soil is a better quality, the plants are going to be healthier without the need for insecticides and herbicides. Organic fertilizer releases its nutrients slower and the plant has a chance to use that nutrient instead of the nutrient running off into the water system.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT – None

IX. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY: Mr. Maxfield moved for adjournment. The time was 8:30 PM.

SECOND BY: Mr. Beardsley

ROLL CALL: 5-0 (Mrs. Yerger & Mr. Hijazi – Absent)

Sandra Yerger, Chairman

Next EAC Meeting: Tuesday, June 8, 2010