

**I. OPENING**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Environmental Advisory Council meeting of Lower Saucon Township Council was called to order on Tuesday, November 9, 2010 at 7:02 P.M., at 3700 Old Philadelphia Pike, Bethlehem, PA, with Sandra Yerger, Chairman, presiding.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

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

**Planner:** Kevin Kochanski – Boucher & James

**Hellertown Liaison:** Terry Boos

**Jr. EAC Member:** Tara Jain – Absent

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**II. OPEN SPACE SUB-COMMITTEE**

**A. PROPERTY UPDATES**

Mr. Beardsley said we did get preliminary applications from John and Amy Carber, Arthur Buroff and Viktoria Smith and Richard Marson. Their properties run together off of Wassergass Road at the top of the hill. He passed around a map of the three properties. In his reading of what they wrote on their preliminary applications, there's no reason not to go and see the properties. We need to schedule that. Hopefully, we can do all three of them at one time. The sub-committee has a meeting with Laura Baird tomorrow to talk about revisions with the Open Space Plan.

Mrs. Yerger said just so you are aware, and if you need the paperwork from the Township, Smith-Buroff does have a plan in the Township. They are planning on putting a house on the property somewhere and she's sure that will play into it somewhere. They are going to be disturbing enough to warrant a stormwater management plan which means they are disturbing in excess of 10,000 square feet. It may just be their driveway, she doesn't know. If you need or want any of that information before you go and see the property, go and see Chris Garges and he'll have that information for you. Mr. Beardsley said they could sit down with Chris and get an overview of what they are trying to do so when they go there, they know what's going on. It's going to be weekends to go see the properties as it's not daylight savings time.

**B.** Mrs. Yerger said we have a guest here this evening and it pertains to open space. Mr. Art Morgan was present. He said he is representing the Marra estate who own several properties in the Township that they are looking to liquidate. One of them adjoins what was the Dravec property. The other one is along the Lehigh River and it's a seven acre parcel. The piece by Dravec is about 2.7 acres and at this point it's sort of landlocked, but there is no landlocked property in the State of Pennsylvania. There is no road to the property. Mr. Beardsley said it's the same as the Dravec pieces on Alpine Drive. Mr. Morgan said they came from the same owner at one point about 40 years ago. The one parcel on the Lehigh River is a little over 7 acres. It sets behind the Steel City Fire Company. Mrs. Yerger said she has given him the preliminary applications and he will start the process. Mr. Morgan said the owners would prefer to sell the properties. They are liquidating the properties. There were costs incurred over time for the estate and they want to cover those costs with what the purchase would be. They will have to get a court stamp for final approval. He knew the properties over the years, and everything got dumped on him. They are now down to the

last 200 acres or so. There were 1,800 acres when they started. They owned property in every county in Pennsylvania but two.

Mr. Johnson asked Mr. Morgan to put the parcel numbers down when he fills out the paperwork so they can check out the database. Mr. Morgan said if you give him your email addresses, he can send you a nice connection and you can do all kinds of mapping and overviews, zoom in, and zoom out. Mrs. Yerger asked Mr. Morgan to send it to Mr. Cahalan our Township Manager, and he will send it to the Open Space Committee. Mr. Morgan said probably about 75% is floodplain. The dark gray area is the property.

Mrs. Yerger said the Alpine Road area property, that's the only one in this estate in our area? Mr. Morgan said yes. There's only two or three others and they are just such small lots. Mrs. Yerger said you are aware that the Township has to operate by appraised values. Mr. Morgan said he just sold one on Springtown Hill Road that was an estate. He sells land, and that's all he pretty much deals with. He said if you need any more information, just give him a call.

### **III. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **A. DISCUSSION ON RECYCLING WITH TOM DITTMAR, NORTHAMPTON COUNTY COORDINATOR**

Mrs. Yerger said we have a guest, Tom Dittmar, who is the Northampton County Recycling Coordinator. Tom is coordinating recycling efforts throughout the county. We talked about the possible benefits of coordinating with the County and Mr. Dittmar said he would come to a meeting to discuss this. Mr. Dittmar said he's available at anytime for any of your meetings. He's been on Palmer Township's EAC for 20 years. He's done this for many, many years for AT&T, Bell Labs and Lucent Technology. He worked his way up to a Manager and it can be done as he started out as a cleaner for old AT&T. He has State of NJ environmental awards, Morris County, NJ and EPA Waste award from Washington, DC for providing a program which started out an estimated 20% to 30% and when he retired he was doing an 85% recycling right there. They had 4700 people at the site. He turned it over from what used to be \$250,000 waste disposal to a \$300,000.00 cost avoidance. He retired in 2001 when he had 28 years. He was teaching a lot of this for Rutgers. He was on the Board of Directors of ANJR, the Association of New Jersey Recycling and teaching a lot of these programs for them. Waste audits are one of his specialties that he loves doing. Hands-on experience is the way he likes to teach it to students. Jersey has run a high recycling because cost was \$125 a ton for disposal. Pennsylvania, we've had it pretty cheap for awhile. Now it's getting up there. He's trying to get people to realize we are only doing county-wide 18% to 19% recycling rate. The state mandate is for 35%. We're way behind the eight ball. How do we get it to happen? He's looked at the statistics recently. Our trash has dropped county-wide by about 50,000 tons due to the recession and the economy. A lot of it is construction debris that is not happening, but there's still a lot more out there to be captured. He wants to be the resource for people to come to him. He wants to upgrade the County website where people can find the information. They can put programs together better. The last household hazardous waste event he did was October 9<sup>th</sup> at Northampton Community College. They only had 1,216 cars come through in less than five hours time. A year ago when they did it, they had 1,509 cars come through and he captured 145,000 lbs. of materials. People like us to do the events. He wants to do them more frequently. He uses Northampton Community College as it's the most centralized location in a large parking lot to capture the people that are coming in. This year they collected 2,770 lbs. of car batteries alone. That's a lot of materials. There's a lot more out there. He drives by and looks at people's trash and see so much recyclable content and he asks himself why is this going to landfills. We are running out of landfill space left and right and we keep throwing more and more into it. Yard waste is a big offender. State mandate says there is no yard waste except for grass clippings. They are the exception because of the bacteria, the odors and so forth. Every day he sees the haulers picking this up and throwing it in the back of the truck. They

say if it's not 51% of their load, they can dump it. We need to stop that. Communities need to make sure that's happening. Compost – is that the best way? It helps cut it a lot. There are a lot of good programs out there. He has probably about 10,000 earth worms in his house as he teaches earth worm compost programs and the kids love it. This year alone, he's held three E-cycling events. He's expanding them. He's probably going to get into taking air conditioners, dehumidifiers, and refrigerators. He's out there right now looking for a vendor that is certified to remove the Freon from them so they can capture it. He has a couple of scrap yards that can do that. If he adds that to the events, it will make it even bigger. They've done about 90,000 lbs. in three recycling events. They did Easton High School in May and Washington Elementary School in Bangor in June and October 2<sup>nd</sup> they did Nazareth Intermediate School. Nazareth he captured about 29,000 lbs. He looks for a company who is certified who has the R2 certifications. He looks to see where their manifests are. He looks to see what is going on with the stuff. He looks to see how are the federal guidelines for destruction of hard drives. A lot of people don't realize, even in a lot of printers, they can capture a lot of information. If somebody gets that information, they can get everything including social security numbers. There's a market out there that you can capture everything real fast and easy. He's looking for the companies that are certified. That can show him the proof. He's audited companies before. He's always looking to see that the right companies are doing the right job. People say why does it cost us to get rid of the material? It does. There's an expense involved in it. One company he's used for the company he audited to see where the materials are going. He checks to make sure their trucks are plaquered correctly, make sure their people have the correct training. He's always concerned if the people have the right training, even the waste haulers, you have to watch them. He's seen a lot of their haulers go down the road with no safety vests who are on the back of the truck, running out from behind the truck. He heard somebody just recently got hit and he was probably running out from the back of the truck, which is an OSHA violation. He's been involved in all of this. He has his RPA in real estate property management, so he had to learn how to look for the safety issues. They were ISO 1401 and ISO 9001, so he's been through all that fun training. He has his certification from Rutgers in recycling. He wants to let you know there is a sustainable workshop conference that is coming up. Palmer, the County, the BIP in Palmer Township, are looking at the sustainable workshop and putting it together right now for February 16<sup>th</sup> and are trying to capture more and more businesses. For example, one of them in Palmer Township in the business district is always looking for styrofoam. Why – because they take that styrofoam and grind it up and make it into picture frames. These are things that can be shared. Some of them don't do it because they don't have their own trucks. Trucking costs are too much, so they are looking at trying to share ideas, share equipment, so they can save money and survive. He knows you got involved in tree vitalization. You got a grant through him. He's waiting for Hellertown to get their paperwork in so they can finalize it. There may be another \$30,000.00 county-wide. The application date will have to be February 1<sup>st</sup>. If a couple of municipalities don't get their applications in, there may be as much as \$50,000.00. If they don't get it in by December 31<sup>st</sup>, forget it, they are going to lose it and are going to have to reapply, and there's no guarantee they are going to get their money. He's been to a lot of the planning sites and has helped out with a lot of them. He's also set up with Tim Dugan from the forestry. They did a training program together. Horticulture is one of Tom's trades. He used to take care of private estates and he has his own tree business back in the 60's. He has fun with it. Rain barrels – there's a company out there called Norsman. If he gets 100 people interested, he can get them for like \$45.00 a barrel. If you go to Home Depot or Lowes, it will cost about \$90.00 to \$100.00 for rain barrels. He can get a good deal if he can get people interested in them. He's out there looking for the deals, looking to save the environment anyway he can. Mr. Boos said they may potentially be getting some from Weirbackers. Mr. Dittmar said he made a rain barrel with pieces of material that people were throwing away.

Mr. Johnson said how do you feel about burning tires in Northampton County as some of the cement plants are doing that. Mr. Dittmar said he doesn't like burning them personally. He would like to extract the fuel that is in there by heating them up. One-third of that tire is scrap steel. He doesn't know, and they should have scrubbers on their total exhaust systems and they

should be monitored by the Federal Government on all emissions. Mr. Johnson said do you think it's environmentally responsible to participate in a project where you collect tires and give them to the cement plants to burn? Mr. Dittmar said that's why he hasn't done a tire collection program because he doesn't have an alternative way to get rid of them except shipping them over to Jersey to a guy who claims they grind them up for playgrounds for mulch. He would like to do a tire collection, but not where they are just going to be burned. Mrs. Yerger said they use them at her daughter's horse training facility as it's easier on the horse's legs in the indoor ring. Mr. Dittmar said when they did the first household waste in Palmer Township, many, many years ago, one of their criteria was the stuff did not go as a fuel blend or to a kiln to burn the stuff that was there. Most of the ones around here do not have the correct scrubbers on them to capture any of the stuff going out into the air. Mr. Johnson said somehow they get permission from the State to burn them, but the State's qualifications aren't that rigorous. Mr. Dittmar said just last year they got the approval to accept tires and to burn them and it can be considered recycling. Until just last year, it was not considered recycling. He thinks there is a better usage for them than that. He'd rather not see them burned. He was involved with Diane Elliott years ago when they put the programs in place in Palmer for the household wastes and he used to talk at some of her classes at Lafayette College for her. They've had long discussions on not to burn tires. Is it a good program to collect the tires? Yes, but he doesn't want to get the County involved in collecting tires as there are businesses out there who should be collecting them as that's part of their revenue source of bringing in. If they charged \$2.00 like Jack Williams, Sears, many different auto stores, they are going to charge money to bring in a car tire. Why should he get involved in it as the County to do their jobs and that keeps their people working? It's like he was going to do a medication collection program this year, but it would have cost them \$5,000.00 to do one. The DEA did it on September 25<sup>th</sup> and had eleven sites throughout the County. They only had to have one officers. If he was going to do it, he would have had to have an officer, a sheriff, himself and a pharmacist. That's Pennsylvania DEP's regulation, but the DEA can do it with only one person. They collected 121,000 tons of medication nationwide. Mr. Johnson said getting back to tires, he imagines Sears takes tires if you buy them, but one of the problems people throw tires alongside of the road and they throw them in various little dumpsites that aren't supposed to be dumpsites and they accumulate and accumulate. Mrs. Yerger said the Watershed Association spent a lot of time cleaning up and collected lots of tires. Mr. Dittmar said he lives by the Bushkill, so they see the tires dumped everywhere. If everyone wants to if we can get groups to participate in it, he has to find labor to load them on to a tractor trailer if we find something that is suitable for all of us and everyone agrees upon where they would go. It would be between \$1.00 and \$2.00 for a passenger tire and as much as \$5.00 for a truck tire. We have to find a way to offset the cost so we don't have to end up saying we are spending more money. There is a potential that there are going to be funds available next year. They've been working on the Solid Waste Plan for two years and it's finally coming through and finishing up. They've had about ten or eleven landfills who have already signed their agreements so there may be funds coming available next year where we'll be able to do these programs and not have to go after people for the revenue. This is what we are shooting for. The long term goal is to have a permanent site where we can do E-cycling, household hazardous waste, tire collection, where we are out of the weather. We have to stop the programs once the winter months come along. To have people stand out in the parking lots in the winter is just ridiculous. It gets cold. He's looking for volunteers for next October 8, 2011 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. as he's doing a household hazardous waste collection at Northampton Community College again. He's shooting for 2,000 cars this year. He's looking for better ways to advertise. He's going to be getting all the brochures out to the municipalities, to the EAC committees, and looking to get church addresses, church emails, and start flooding the market with all the information. He's had 5,000 brochures out this year and only got 1,216 cars which is very disappointing to him. E-cycling events he has scheduled May 21<sup>st</sup> at Easton High School; June 4<sup>th</sup> at Washington Township Elementary School; and October 1<sup>st</sup> at Nazareth Intermediate School. He starts planning way ahead of time.

Mr. Johnson said who do you give your recycling e-waste to after you collect it? Mr. Dittmar said it's collected and they have AERC come in. They come in, bring in a full crew of people. They unload it from the cars, stack it, package it, and take it back and put it on their tractor trailer. It's in and out on the same day. The last one they did was almost 29,000 lbs. Easton, they did almost 60,000 lbs. There's a large volume they are pulling out. They charge \$1.00 for a CPU and \$1.00 for keyboards. The most expensive items out there are TV sets, which are \$18.00 and that's what it costs for the lead and the glass to be correctly handled; monitors are \$5.00 because of the lead and the glass of the monitor. They take fluorescent bulbs. Batteries are \$0.75 a pound; florescent bulbs are \$0.25. The 4' bulbs are hard, but when he does the household hazardous waste, he collects the florescent bulbs too. They don't charge when they collect them at the household hazardous waste event. Last year it was \$86,000.00 for the event. This year it's probably going to be \$50,000.00 to \$54,000.00. It's expensive for the events. Ms. Ray asked if they had a website where they post all their events? Mr. Dittmar said they are trying to do that. You can find it on the calendar, but good luck. It's very difficult. They are trying to get it enhanced so people can find it quick and easy. He ends up sending it over to Bethlehem Township, Palmer Township, and they have it right on their website and you click on it, and it's there. Mrs. Yerger said we do that also. He sends all the information to all the municipalities so they can put it on their websites for the residents, but not everyone is on computers. They have to figure out how do they get it to the other group of people. The younger generation does not read the paper. You have to find other avenues to get a hold of them. People under 40 are not reading the newspaper, they are going online. Mr. Maxfield said in Lower Saucon Township, we send notices to the kids through the school. Mr. Dittmar said they have one of the best recycling school systems in the county which he wanted them to get involved so they could get rated in getting an award. It's a program called Greensylvania. Every time he sends them information, they say they have a lot of things going on right now. They will get them onboard eventually. We need to start educating the kids more at a younger age because a lot of its being missed at the present time. Illicks Mill does promote his program left and right. They've been a big help.

Mr. Dittmar wants to start a shredding program for the residents to bring their things in and he just has to work out the logistics and they can shred it up right there. Not only are they starting to recycle and enhance the program, but help the residents out in the area too. He's here for each one of the municipalities and for all the EAC committees.

Ms. Tokura asked if Mr. Dittmar could explain the certificate which is approved by EPA? Mr. Dittmar said they all come under the guidelines of the Federal Government as to make sure things are being handled correctly and disposed of correctly so they are not just being dumped. It's takes a small group of people dumping things to make it look bad for everyone. There are good companies out there doing it. He's asking all these good companies out there to show him their certifications so that he can validate and say they are doing the right thing. Without seeing their certifications, the R2, the destruction of the hard drives, their manifest sheets, he cannot take and validate that they are doing the right things, and he won't say people are doing the right things unless he can see those papers. That's very, very important to know where the materials are ending up. Ms. Tokura said what is the E2 certification? Mr. Dittmar said he has to look into that more as there are more and more guidelines by the Federal Government. He's used to the R2 and he's used to destruction of the hard drive by the Federal Government. The E2, he's got to look into that. Mr. Maxfield said is that a greater or lesser certification? Mr. Dittmar said in the past couple of years, it's looking to get anybody who is doing electronics, certified and make sure they are handling and disposing of things correctly. The news media has brought out things also that the disposal has been done incorrectly in some cases. He's not saying all of them, but there's a very, very small amount that did it wrong which make it look bad for everybody. There are companies that are doing it right. He's available for any of your meetings anytime. He can help and work with you. Northampton County for the state was looked at like the bottom of the barrel for recycling and environmental programs. As of last year, they had 36 of the 38 municipalities recycling, and not all of them are mandated. They are getting there, but 18% to 19% is low.

Mr. Johnson said what happens to the recycling that the garbage people pick up in a separate container for recycling? Mr. Dittmar said each one of them would have their own places they take it to. Some go to Green Star. Waste Management has their own and so does J. Mascarro. They all have their different places they take it to. Mr. Johnson said they separate it and take out all the cans, the glass, etc.? Mr. Dittmar said they break it down to make it more marketable. If you go to Tide Hill or Greenstar, they have a sorting facility system so they can separate everything and market it by its commodity. They are even breaking down the plastics as they have different values. He's looked at some statistics of Palmer Township as they have their own recycling center and they are pulling in a lot of paper, a lot of cardboard. People sometimes don't want to put it out there and want to take it to the recycling center. His recent suggestion for them is to go and get a compactor for their junk mail to increase and enhance the security of it. You can pick up 8 to 10 tons on a compacted load like that of paper where cardboard you may only get 4 tons. Mr. Johnson said Bethlehem must be making money at it as they have a big operation going on out there. Mr. Dittmar said he's not making as much as he used to. He was making over \$500,000.00 a year by marketing and selling the materials. When the economy and paper market dropped two years ago, it went way down. Before that, it was paying as much as \$110.00 a ton. The market is coming back. It all deals with what is China doing. Are we sending more and more stuff there? Are we buying more and more Christmas products here so we are using more cardboard and paper. We are not just a U.S. economy. We are a world economy, so how are we going to deal with that. Our recycling materials fluctuate the same way. Is there a bigger market for a material or a lesser market? Scrap metal – it went down but it's climbed back up. Aluminum went up to \$.64 not that long ago. The stuff is climbing up on a slow pace, but there's still a market for it. How much is your labor cost? How much are you going to get involved in handling the materials? You have to work all those figures out - your dumpsters, your compactors. Tom Marshall had that problem a couple of years ago when one of the guys got killed on the site so they had to enhance and change their whole site layout to minimize the liabilities. Tom is responsible for all of Bethlehem's recyclable programs.

Mr. Dittmar said he's still looking for a member to join a county wide EAC that he really wants to push starting early next year. This way they can get the information out to the municipalities quicker. He tried to put a county wide EAC together a couple of years ago and only got 8 responses.

Mr. Johnson asked if Mr. Dittmar knew who the Recycling Coordinator was in Allentown? Mr. Dittmar said no, he didn't. Mr. Johnson asked if he knew if and when he is going to know roughly about the enhanced electronic recycling, dehumidifiers, TV's? Mr. Dittmar said hopefully he'll know before the first of the year. The TV's they do right now. He gave Mrs. Yerger a price listing. She said she would make copies for everyone. Mr. Dittmar said they are trying to flood everyone with the information so he goes up north more to the Slate Belt COG meeting. He's taught over 1,140 food compost programs in Palmer Township alone, over 4,000 in New Jersey and between 2,000 and 3,000 in Michigan. Kids who eat their lunch in the classroom, he taught them about earth worm composting. They take the leftover food from the children and then they can see what their food turns into and they have a few earthworms at the end of the school year and the kids have fun doing it. Some EAC members said they have snakes in their compost piles. Mr. Dittmar said that is good, the snakes are coming back which is a good indication. They found beavers along the Buskill. Mrs. Yerger said are beavers in Lower Saucon. Ms. Ray said they had talked about doing a composting workshop. Mrs. Yerger said they tried to go through the County and every time they would apply, they were out of bins. Mr. Dittmar said that was the Penn State group and they stopped getting funds. They were getting \$100 a year for Lehigh and Northampton County. The grant funding stopped for that with the DEP. Mrs. Yerger said is there some way to substitute that? Mr. Dittmar said he was going to teach one this year and it got put on hold as they only had six people sign up. They were looking at the price and Norsum gave \$30.00 or \$40.00 a bin. Palmer Township said they were willing to spend the money, but they were going to put a \$20.00 or \$25.00 charge on it and they said the hard part is they've done it for nothing for years

through grant funds. New Jersey charge \$20.00 to \$25.00 for the earth machines right away. To just give the earth machine at a \$25.00 charge or even the full charge does not educate the people correctly and they are missing a big part of it. You need to spend a good half hour to an hour going over it depending on what size crowd you have. He would like to spend a half day teaching the people to do it the right way. Mrs. Yerger said do you think it would be of interest if there was a charge here? If they are aware of the fact that it's not going to come back, it's not a viable option anymore. Mr. Dittmar said if he buys them at Norsum, the earth machines, so if he's buying 100 of them, they will give him a good price. He'd have to negotiate with them. He'd like to get a mess of them in the municipalities. That's the purpose of the EAC so they can get the EAC's together and do these programs throughout the County. Mrs. Yerger said they could help out, but can't guarantee you 100 people. Mr. Maxfield said they might be able to get about 50 people. Mrs. Yerger asked if there was a program like that in Bucks? Mr. Dittmar said he'd have to talk to them down there. They do a lot of programs there. Mrs. Yerger said that's something we could talk about when we set our goals in January and she could start doing some preliminary work on it. She asked if there were any other comments? Mr. Dittmar said he's read through your minutes and he wanted to state that they are thorough and good.

**B. DISCUSSION WITH A-PLUS RECYCLING**

Glorinda and William Cook were present. Glorinda said she is basically here because she read the minutes and they are here for any questions the EAC may have.

Mr. McCormick said they've done E-cycling events here in the garage. They advertised and people would come and you would work the events here locally and haul the stuff away. Glorinda said that's correct. Mr. McCormick said there were then some concerns raised about the firm we partner with versus the firm others partner with in the region so there were some questions about the certifications.

William wanted to address that A-Plus does it free and everybody else charges. Their business model is different than everyone else's. The good answer is there is a dirty secret to recycling. There's a charge you can charge a customer and there's the back end. There's two ways to make money in recycling. Anyone who is in recycling, especially with electronics, not hazardous waste obviously, but when he's taking a computer from you, he's taking metal, like a circuit board. The monitors, he doesn't want to do monitors. If you could find a way to take monitors, God bless you. If he's doing the service for you, he's trying to find a way to do monitors for you as cheaply as possible. The cheapest way he could find out was \$10.00 a monitor at the time because that's what they were being charged to take the monitors. A company in New Jersey takes the monitors. Cuts it with the laser, cleans it out, sells the glass, sells the lead, sells the phosphorus, and sells everything else, nothing is land filled. That company charges us exactly \$10.00. It was a wash for him. He had to load it. He had to store it. He had to transfer it. He lost money even at \$10.00 a monitor, but he was willing to do it as a service. When he first came to you, he had a great idea one night and he was thinking and said why are we charging people? Why don't we just do it free? When you charge people, they just look at you. People come to his office and ask him what he charges for a monitor. He tells them \$10.00 and they walk out. He goes after them and says where are you going and that person says he'll just throw it away in the garbage. He said there has to be a way to do this for free. He went to Carbon County and said he got a great idea, let's not charge anyone, let's do it for free. The guy looked at him like he had a screw loose. He said we can do this for free as he makes the money on the back end. Circuit boards have gold plate, even silver. He sends them to a smelter and makes x amount of dollars per pound. He makes a lot of money. He doesn't do this because he's a good guy. The metal is metal and they make cars out of it. It's metal, it's steel. That's smeltable. The wire is cooper and it gets smelted just like everything else. Those are the things we deal with. Everything else, even a hard drive, he doesn't care about a hard drive. He cares about the fact that it's 99% aluminum. It goes into a shredder and gets shredded into little tiny pieces and gets sent to a smelter to get new aluminum.

Mr. McCormick said you are talking about the business model and that's important for us to understand. He asked William if he was R2 certified? William said they've never been R2 certified. If it's something they have to be R2 certified, then fine. Putting it through a shredder is pretty R2 certified. Mr. McCormick said that's easy for you to say as you are in the business and he's a lay person. William said no, he doesn't have R2 certification, he never knew about it.

Glorinda said they've done recycling for you for about five years. They actually have been doing it for twelve years and they never needed a permit. She has gotten applications and questionnaires from the City of Allentown and the State of Pennsylvania. She actually has numbers here for you to call. They are currently in the process of getting a DEP permit. They've never needed it because it's non-hazardous. They don't deal in TV's or appliances or light bulbs or batteries. What they do is they started as a distributor in IC semi-conductors. Last November they were here and explained everything. They sell IC's and semi-conductors. They take the IC's and semi-conductors off of PC boards, they refurbish them and sell them. They are really a true electronic recycler. Basically for corporations and businesses is how they started. They are also environmentally conscious too. They don't want this in a landfill, so they opened it up to the residences which is why they do community events. They take the good with the bad. They are able to not charge because they do make money on the back end. They have to charge for the monitors now, but there's a way to get around that. They host it, but they ask the people who do the electronic recycling to pay for the advertisement and pay for the labor. They kind of work together. Yes, now she does need a DEP permit. They are in the process with Ed Dudick and Mr. Konvue of DEP. They already submitted it and it has been reviewed. Mr. Maxfield said is this a new requirement? William said he doesn't know. They asked the EPA, the State, John Rehrer, do they need any kind of licenses for this? As far as they are concerned, it's not hazardous equipment. He looked at it and they did all the recycling for the State. As far as computers go, they went to the barracks and took out all this stuff from the Army. We don't get involved in batteries and light bulbs. That's a different classification. They never needed any of these things before. Finally, certain government officials became involved in it, now everyone wants information.

Mr. McCormick said there's a difference if you have to be licensed and do you have a certification. It may be that we'd like you to have a certification. William said that's what this is. Mr. McCormick said he would make a motion if he were in the leadership that we invite the A-Plus folks who have been working with us for many, many years to contact us the moment they have R2 certification, submit it, and then at that time we should consider working with them.

William said he's just curious, he's never seen Mr. McCormick here before. Mrs. Yerger said he's been here for five years. William said he thought he answered all these questions before. Mr. McCormick said potentially not true. There's been a frustration with getting some materials out of here. It's all forgiven. None of it matters. Let's look from this day forward. He would recommend, as an EAC, which is an Environmental Council, that we recommend that the Township work with companies that have R2 certification upon the advice of the Northampton County Coordinator for recycling. William said have you reviewed our certifications? Mr. McCormick said you just said you didn't know it existed. He is deferring to the advice of the Northampton County Coordinator. If you don't want to get it, that's fine.

Mrs. Yerger said here is our dilemma. The people of this body have been asked that question from the public. We can't respond that you have these certifications that we are working with a group that is. That's where the question was raised this fall. It came from outside. We didn't have an answer for them. In all fairness, we had been told by Glorinda, that you were going to be updating your website and some of this information would be put on it. Glorinda said they did say it would be updated. William said they have been really swamped. Mrs. Yerger said we couldn't even send residents to your website.

William said this is the first time he ever heard of an R2. He didn't even know there was a question about the R2. He heard about questions about being certified with the WMGR81. Mr. Maxfield said when we heard there was a certification of an R2, we didn't know what it was or whether it was common practice. If now, it's a hurdle that you are going on inquiring this thing, then he doesn't see why we can't use you. Glorinda said she did talk to Mr. Konvue this morning and asked him to fax something to her stating we could prove we were in the process. This is what he told her to bring. Copies of her little green stamp that they have to notify township's and waste management's and everything that we are now qualified, and this is her proof. He said if you have any questions to call him. She also wants to bring up the fact of a letter she received from Mr. Jack Cahalan. She also read in the minutes that she wasn't answering questions and trying to skirt some issues. That's not at all how she meant it to be. She has Mr. Cahalan's letter and she has his response. All she said was, just to reiterate everything, she did go over everything last November at the EAC meeting. That's why we are here. We're trying to conform. We're trying to do everything by the book. Mrs. Yerger said honestly, that's where we were coming from. The letters were coming from outside. William said why didn't you just call us and tell us to get an R2 certification, and tell us you have to do that. Mr. Maxfield said they didn't even know what it was.

Ms. Ray said some of the questions we had were is this stuff just going to China? Glorinda said she understands. William said he pays about \$0.04 a pound to have it shredded. Mrs. Yerger said it would be good then to tell that on your website. William said it's actually on there now. Mrs. Yerger said sending them to your website would have been helpful, but we didn't have that. People were asking questions and we had no answers for them. Until we had those answers, we suspended the whole thing. It's not like we hired anyone else. It's just we needed to step back and think about it. We were directing people to the County recycling as a temporary until we could find out where we were going from there.

William said there's a reason his business model is different. That's because he gave up the front end, that's all. Everybody else charges. Everybody else wants to charge. In the recycling business, they will charge you to get rid of everything. They just said, look, we'll eat the front end as we make enough money in the back end. That was why his business model is different than others. Glorinda said we truly want the electronics. William said he needs the components. Mr. McCormick said he does believe perhaps we are talking past each other. He's not sure people were overly concerned about your business model. He's sure someone raised that question. He's sure it appears. He has been at these meetings. If you care to hear his perspective, he knows what the people in this room care about. It's the certifications. If you'd like to get the certification, fine. Glorinda said they are in the process.

Mr. McCormick said fine, let us know when you get them. Glorinda said the reason they are here, too, is she has spoken to Mr. Dittmar many times. In the minutes, someone did refer and say that Mr. Dittmar said there were concerns about A-Plus Industries. Mr. Dittmar said he said you can't talk positive of a company until they have the certifications. The other company that is out there which people are getting the two companies mixed up. Glorinda said that's another reason she's here. It's Advanced Green Solutions. William said that just hurts him. It tarnishes his reputation. He's been in business for 21 years. He's never dumped a darn thing and he hears people saying that and they have questions about A-Plus. He said it's just time to come out and find what's going on. Mr. Maxfield said once again, there is a misunderstanding. Glorinda said exactly. William said call him anytime.

Mr. Maxfield said this is a concern for us because of what we got from the public. It's a good course of action. As soon as you get that certification, let us know. Glorinda said yes, they will. Mr. Maxfield said he doesn't think we are as concerned about the certification as to where is this stuff going? When we first started working with you, you told us the monitors would be converted into TV's. Glorinda and William said that was a long time ago. Mr. Maxfield said if things change, we need to know. William said with the monitor market, things change all the time. All of

a sudden, there's a demand for glass, and we are buying things up like crazy, and then one day, no more glass. It changes all the time. If lead is high, they want the lead from the glass. You can get really hurt with monitors. They take up a lot of space and they are very heavy. Mrs. Yerger said they are glad to hear they are going through the process. It will help us as we move forward. Mr. Beardsley said he thinks maybe Mr. Dittmar can be a resource for you to get the proper certifications. He's sure Mr. Dittmar would get you going in the right direction. William said they talked to the head of the EPA in the State and he tells you they don't need any of this stuff, you don't go and say, yes you do. Glorinda said when they sat down a month and a half ago with the DEP, she brought all her paperwork as she saves everything and they kind of looked at her like she had two heads when she said you asked me all this information, you told me I didn't need permits or certification. They said oh no, that's not what they said. She showed them and said here it is, and sure enough it was all filled out and sent back to her from them saying we did not need permits or certifications. They then made copies for everybody. William said they made us do a soil and hydraulic test. We're on the second floor of a building. They want a soil test. We have to go through a mound of paperwork to get that taken care of. IT's just ridiculous. These are the kinds of things you run into. Mr. Maxfield said keep us posted and we'll get back on track and get something scheduled. Thanks for explaining.

Mr. Dittmar said a lot of the other companies do the charging for the labor. They are supplying the labor. They are looking for volunteers. That's where your charging difference comes in. Mr. Maxfield said we use Township employees. William said and you do the advertising. Mr. Dittmar said their biggest thing is the labor. Mrs. Yerger said that's not a problem for us to do the labor and the advertising. The Township does it as a service to their residents.

#### **IV. DEVELOPER ITEMS**

##### **A. METRO PENNSYLVANIA PCS SITE PLAN #SP 04-10 & CONDITIONAL USE # CU 03-10 – 3709 HICKORY HILL ROAD**

Mr. Kochanski said there is a conditional use application and site plan in front of the Township for a co-location of a Metro PCS antenna array. This is not too unique. We are seeing a little bit more and more of these co-locations. It's on a PPL electric transmission pole which is unique, but they are starting to run out of areas to start putting poles up, so they are getting a little bit more creative with where they can co-locate things. In essence, it's an 8' elevation change extension on top of the tower to locate the antenna array. It is located on Hickory Hill Road just before you hit I-78. They are doing a small pad outside of the existing tower. It will be fenced in with a fence for screening purposes and really from an environmental standpoint, there's not much going on with this particular application. Mr. Maxfield said is there an existing fence there? Mr. Kochanski said there is a chain link fence along I-78. It's almost right against that fence. You can see the transmission fence as you are driving along up Hickory Hill coming from Hellertown. Mrs. Yerger said just as an FYI and we talked about this before and for environmental reasons, the Township always encourages co-location if at all possible instead of erecting new towers. Mr. McCormick said it's also adjacent to Route 78 and there shouldn't be too many environmental concerns. Mr. Maxfield said it's close to residential areas also. Mrs. Yerger said it is an existing pole. Mr. Kochanski said the lot is a single family existing home. The property owner is taking advantage of the easement that is running with the PPL electric lines. From their impact, they are going to see a small concrete pad with a fence around it and insignificant landscaping. This applicant went with a board-on-board fence. Mr. Maxfield asked what they said about lighting? Mr. Kochanski said lighting, he doesn't believe they are proposing lighting on the actual extension. There is a light proposed as part of the equipment compound, but it is on a timer. It's something typical that you are seeing more and more often where they are on a one hour timer so that if a technician needs to come and service it, he turns it on and it will automatically turn off. There are a few things that we are looking for that are noted in their lease. They have not provided information for emergency generators. They are in the process of finalizing their review in order to get to the Planning

Commission next week. Mr. Maxfield said we always ask about storage of hazardous materials in those equipment sheds, and he never quite figured out what they store that could be hazardous for a cell phone tower. Mr. Kochanski said he's sensing since they see more and more applications come in, not only Lower Saucon, for a cell tower co-location. You used to see the larger equipment buildings. It was an actual building with air conditioning units on it. He doesn't know as he hasn't heard it officially from the industry, but they seem to be getting away from the actual building structures that were 10' to 12' and going with smaller cabinets. There may be a shift in the technology that they are able to get the equipment in the smaller cabinets. That is something that is an ordinance requirement that they identify any hazardous materials. They have not provided that information yet. This is the third Metro PCS application that has come in this year. We had the Sherry Hill Road co-location; the Leithsville co-location; and now this is the third co-location for this particular company. The other two applications, if there is any indication, did not have anything in their cabinets. It is probably a similar type situation.

Mrs. Yerger said the EAC will take no action.

**B. IESI PA – BETHLEHEM LANDFILL CELL 4-F PRELIMINARY/FINAL LAND DEVELOPMENT #LD 02-10 – 2335 APPLEBUTTER RAOD**

Mrs. Yerger showed the EAC a very large map of IESI. It is landfill Cell 4-F and they have submitted a development plan. Mr. Johnson said are they just starting to get approval from the Township on a new part of their landfill or is this something that's been going on for years? Mr. Kochanski said he thinks this is something that has been in the works. It has more to do with stormwater management and a change in the way they were doing their stormwater management through a DEP permit, and as a result of that, the permit went through, but the Township said great, but you still need to file land development plans. It's kind of a cleanup on something they have been working on to address some issues, and that's primarily what they are doing as part of this plan. Mrs. Yerger said there were some stormwater basin alterations. Mr. Guerra said this is more of a site improvement plan than the land development plan. Mr. Kochanski said yes, but it still met the requirements of submitting a land development plan. The area that is in question is adjacent to the hill climb. They are relocating a PPL transmission line. They are pushing that back and doing some engineering of a berm to address some safety issues. From what they heard in Council meetings, this was going through the DEP process and there's really no increase in the volume of the landfill. It's just more of a swap to let things drain a little bit better. There is a detention sediment basin on this side where Cell 4-F was located, now they converted it to a trap and are making revisions on the other side of the landfill. From an environmental standpoint, this plan was submitted originally back in 2001 under the old environmental requirements. Looking at the steep slopes and woodland protection that we currently have in our ordinance, aren't applicable as they are grandfathered under the old requirements. That doesn't mean we haven't started to identify some environmental issues. Particularly, the wood fill area they've indicated on their plans is where they are doing some of their revisions and it does contain some woodlands. They have not identified them to the extent that we believe they exist. Per ordinance requirement, they need to quantify what they are removing. They have not done that. More importantly, they have not shown us how they are going to protect those areas that they are not disturbing. There are three issues we are identifying under the old ordinances for things that concern us that would be relevant to your discussions from an environmental standpoint which we can see at this point.

Mr. Maxfield said are you aware of any of those disturbance areas being in old unlined landfill areas or outside the actual disposal area? Mr. Kochanski said he doesn't believe they are outside. They've indicated it's a wood fill area. We have questions exactly what that terminology means what's there? We know there are mature woodlands there now. It has been that way for some time. We are questioning the extent to which they are showing those resources on there and we feel there is a little bit more out there than they are currently showing. Mr. Maxfield said the wood fill area was the original what they called the Bethlehem dump. It was not lined. They probably have

an above liner on it not, but not a below liner. Mr. Kochanski said they are doing a lot of improvements of grading around where the sediment basin is right now. So to some degree, that liner is still below those other areas. We were looking at it from the disturbance standpoint and saying the extent to which you are showing your resources on here really doesn't seem to marry up with what we believe so it's going to be a little bit of coordination there, so we need to quantify what they are taking down and what they are protecting in those other areas that need to be preserved. Mrs. Yerger said you need clarification on the quantity of the woodlands. You need quantification of the amount of woodland disturbance; and then you need to ascertain what kind of protection that they are going to apply to woodlands that are going to remain. Mr. Kochanski said correct. They have not shown any type of detail as far as woodland protection, fencing, things along that nature, that we would typically need to see on the plans. Mr. Maxfield said do any of these require any type of replanting? Mr. Kochanski said not under the old ordinance regulations.

Mr. Johnson said how many acres of woodland are they talking about disturbing? Mr. Kochanski said that's what we are questioning. We think there is a discrepancy with what the limits of woodlands on their plans versus our plans and they have not shown us exactly where they are. Mr. Johnson said does all the rain water that falls onto their property flow down towards Applebutter Road or is there a point where the water starts to flow down towards the other side? Mr. Kochanski said he thinks there is water that is flowing in both directions. Mrs. Yerger said that was the purpose of berm, wasn't it? Mr. Kochanski said correct to capture some of that. Are there portions of this property where rain will fall and drain off? Yes. But they are capturing a majority of that, particularly that above the landfill. Mr. Johnson said the reason he asks is because of the problem they have with the rain water washing down the mountain and washing out Riverside Drive. Mr. Maxfield said there are still some questions where that came from. Mr. Kochanski said he does not believe the Township Engineer has looked at and/or commented on the stormwater management and how that is functioning. That is one they are going to be looking at to make sure at least from the prior approval, has not gotten worse. If anything, it would stay the same or get better from that drainage point.

Mr. Maxfield said this process is going to go on for awhile. Mr. Guerra asked about the runoff water, is it filtered? The intention of recapturing stormwater is to recharge the ground water, but this water has potential contaminants in it. How does that work on a site like this? Mr. Kochanski said their office isn't reviewing the storm water standpoint, the engineer is, but from their preliminary review of it, they are diverting things into these basins. There's probably some degree some filtering and treatment of that, but exactly how that is functioning, we don't have the experience from a stormwater standpoint. Mrs. Yerger said most of this is lined, so it's more of a capturing system than a recharge. Mr. Maxfield said what they are really trying to do, because of the pollution that existed in the unlined section, they just get it off before it hits there. Mr. Johnson said is the wood fill area where they are considering where you're not sure how many trees they are going to remove? Mr. Kochanski said yes, that is the area where the majority of the improvements are occurring. Mr. Johnson said his understanding is there is a proposed transmission line through there. That usually indicates a 150' right-of-way where PPL clears out everything. Mr. Kochanski said you are correct. That has not been provided. You can see internal to the site, there is an existing PPL right-of-way and that's one of the areas they are proposing to relocate that further away out of the site within that woodland area. Mrs. Yerger said is there a potential to re-vegetate or reforest the area? Mr. Kochanski said there could be an opportunity, although it looks like there are drives in and around there, access roads. To what extent that correlates with the easement, he doesn't know. Getting back to Mr. Johnson's question as to additional clearing of that line, that's kind of what we are looking at to what they have not defined yet as far as any type of quantification of the woodland disturbance. Mr. Maxfield said at 100' or 150' that could take out almost all of those trees. Mr. Kochanski said if he remembers correctly from other applications that we're talking about the utility lines, they were taking what used to be 100' and expanding that from a clearance standpoint. Mr. Maxfield said and cutting them to the ground. Ms. Ray said this is the steepest part of the whole place. She doesn't see how it couldn't be bad. Mrs. Yerger said they are

building a big berm. Mr. Kochanski said the berm is what we're showing here in the blue. Ms. Ray said that's the landfill. She doesn't see how it couldn't be bad going down this side of the hill. It's all downhill. If you are ripping this all out, how is that not going to be washing all down? Mrs. Yerger said that's a good question. It's just going to keep running off. It can soak in. Mr. Maxfield said if we are waiting for more info, why don't we express that we want an answer for that. Mr. Kochanski said it's within your purview to request that those areas that are being disturbed or where easements are being relocated that, to the greatest extent possible, they be re-vegetated. A request from the EAC or recommendation to ask the landfill to re-vegetate is something we can't say they have to do. It's a request. If you don't ask for it, you won't get it. Mr. Maxfield said we can ask what policy they intend to follow and they need to get an answer from PPL on exactly what is going to happen. Mrs. Yerger said and how is it going to affect stormwater runoff going off site? Mr. Kochanski said you do bring in with the removal of the trees, soils that are unstablized at that point which is really what drives steep slope regulations. Unfortunately, when this was submitted, there were environmental controls within the Township code which did not exist. Mrs. Yerger said if there are runoff issues onto an adjacent property they don't own, they are still going to have to figure out how to remediate it. Mr. Maxfield said or it has to figure into the calculations. Mr. Kochanski said he would think it would be in their best interest, solely from a structural standpoint of the landfill that you don't want the side of your landfill eroding away. That's going to be something they are going to have to address. They have not yet. Mrs. Yerger said it still won't hurt us to give them our recommendations.

- MOTION BY:** Mr. Maxfield moved to make the following recommendations:
1. The extent of existing woodland areas should be shown on the plans.
  2. The extent of woodland disturbance should be quantified on the plans.
  3. The location, methods, and details for tree protection should be shown on the plans.
  4. The applicant should provide additional information regarding the relocation of the PP&L power lines and the effects this relocation will have on existing tree cover, stormwater on the north slope, and visual impacts to the area.
  5. The applicant should provide additional information regarding PP&L's policy on the width of the clearing necessary for the relocated power lines and any environmental impacts from the maintenance of this clearing.
  6. The applicant should revegetate the disturbed areas, if appropriate.
- SECOND BY:** Laura Ray  
**ROLL CALL:** 6-0 (Absent – Hazem Hijazi)

**V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 12, 2010 MINUTES**

Minutes were tabled until the December 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**VI. OLD/MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

- Mr. McCormick said regarding the discussion with A-Plus, he would be concerned about a misunderstanding that could follow the meeting we had, so he would recommend that you recommend to Council that Mr. Cahalan send a letter to A-Plus making a few brief points.
1. Thanking A-Plus for their attendance at the meeting.
  2. Clarify that in no way is the EAC requiring, recommending or requesting that A-Plus seek any certifications.
  3. That the EAC is not undertaking any commitment to do business with A-Plus whether they do or do not achieve any certifications.
  4. That the EAC always welcomes the input of A-Plus and if there are any further developments in respect to A-Plus certifications or otherwise, they should feel free to submit that information to the EAC for review at their option.

The point being if they spend time and money or at least claim they spent time and money in achieving the certification, and they come back and we opt for some other reason to work with someone else or not at all because Mr. Dittmar says he'll run his next one in our Township and he's really good at it, you do not want any type of misrepresentation that this body told him that we would do business with him if he were to obtain certifications. He would highly recommend that we written correspondence quickly before anyone could argue that they incur expenses or time. That's a sound practice to recommend that Council ask the Manager to do this. Mr. Maxfield said maybe in the letter we could refer to their pursuit of the R2 certification and they have chosen to take this on their own. It's not something that we are not requiring. Mr. McCormick said he would not talk about what they are or are not doing as he's not clear about that. They admitted until a few hours ago that they didn't know of an existence of an R2 certification. That would clarify is they submit information to us, we might be very interested to look at it. He wants to be very, very clear that there's no promise being made here. Mrs. Yerger said she agrees that a letter be sent.

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Maxfield moved for recommendation which was stated above by Mr. McCormick.  
**SECOND BY:** Mr. Guerra  
**ROLL CALL:** 6-0 (Haz Hijazi – Absent)

- Mr. Johnson said he wants to bring up something about our ongoing effort with establishing an ordinance which has to do with the installation of solar panels and wind turbines in the Township. There was a recent article in the Morning Call about other Township's in the area who are running into problems with not having ordinances regulating the installation of solar panels and wind towers. Companies are coming in and wanting to put in solar panel farms. The article he read was a company came in and wanted to make a deal with a school district here in Northampton County whereas if the school district would lease them the property, they would put up a large solar panel farm and give the school district a reduced cost of electricity. That's the kind of thing that's being done. Mr. Maxfield said it seems that would make them a utility. Mr. Johnson said it was not a utility, it was a profit making company that wanted to do that. That was not the only instance. He thinks Crayola put in and got permission to put in a giant field of solar panels and there was no ordinances to regulate anything they did. This is bringing up the subject in other Townships in the County. Mrs. Yerger said she thinks in December for the next meeting, we need to review some of the things we wanted to accomplish this year that we may or may not have and we need to put that in for 2011 that we can come up with a working set of ordinances for alternative sources of energy. Mr. Maxfield said what we were going to do was have experts come in and talk to us about it and give presentations. That never materialized and we need to do that. Mr. Johnson said in the article, it's not about solar power, it's about zoning. Mrs. Yerger said that's why we have requested our Planers to look at our zoning issues and approach it from that aspect as well as our engineers who do the structural impacts on the houses and the neighbors. It has to be looked at from both sides. Mr. Johnson said he had a thought about someone coming in here and buying the South Mountain, cutting down all the trees and putting in solar panels. If we can't prevent that, some profit-making company may come in and do that. Someone could do it in any one of our ridges we have.

## **VI. UPDATES/REPORTS**

### **A. REPORT ON THE ADOPT-A-ROAD PROGRAM CLEAN-UP DONE ON OCTOBER 30, 2010 BY THE EAC**

Mrs. Yerger said thanked everyone for helping. There was a small crew, but it worked for us and it was very clean. They only got two half bags and a tire. What they talked about, since it's relatively short from Old Mill to Bingen, they thought they might want to take it from Old Mill out to Route 412 and do the entire Reading Road section and take both sections. It's technically split. There are certainly enough of us. Tom McCormick, Laura Ray, Terry Boos, a friend of Terry, Chiharu and Sandy did the cleanup. The Adopt-a-Road sign will go on the Bingen Road side and we will schedule another cleanup for Spring.

**Environmental Advisory Council  
November 9, 2010**

- MOTION BY:** Mrs. Yerger moved that the EAC will take Reading Road from Bingen to Route 412 for the Adopt-a-Road program.
- SECOND BY:** Ms. Ray
- ROLL CALL:** 6-0 (Mr. Hijazi – Absent)

**VII. HELLERTOWN REPRESENTATIVE – REPORT – No report**

**VIII. NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

- Mrs. Yerger said she has brochures on some educational opportunities. Pruning woody plants is one of them. There's a pesticide course at the Penn State extension. Professional knowledge of tree care at Penn State's extension. Pruning for professionals and educational programs for the green industry. If you are interested in taking any of them, let her know.
- Mr. Maxfield said this Saturday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, meeting at Riverport in South Bethlehem at about 8:30 a.m. and they are doing a cleanup at Walking Purchase Park. There's going to be Saucon Creek Watershed people there and some Beca kids helping out. There's are lots of other community groups showing up to do this cleanup. It will be from 9 a.m. to noon. It's the stretch of woods and area behind St. Luke's. There will be lunch provided. Any participation is welcome.
- Ms. Ray said she's curious about the Phoebe Ministries. Do they not have a plan submitted? Is that why nothing came through us yet? Mrs. Yerger said absolutely. Mr. Maxfield said it involves their suggestion for an ordinance change and he thinks we should have seen it. Mrs. Yerger said they just came to Council to do their Power Point presentation so they could show it to Planning. As soon as we get anything that looks formal, she's sure it will come to the EAC. Mr. Beardsley said the meeting that was supposed to at the high school was cancelled. Mrs. Yerger said the school is reserved for the November 18<sup>th</sup> Planning Commission meeting. Mr. Kochanski said to his knowledge, Phoebe has not submitted anything. There's a deadline that they have to submit something to get on the Planning Commission agenda. He doesn't know when that deadline is. Mr. Johnson said what concerns him, are they going to pay taxes? Mr. Maxfield said that's one of the issues they are discussing. Mrs. Yerger said it depends on what type of entity they ultimately end up being. Apparently, they can be one of several entities. Mr. Maxfield said they realize whatever they propose, there's going to have to be some kind of benefit to the Township or it won't be considered. Mrs. Yerger said if you are interested, her best suggestion is to go to the Planning Commission meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> as long as they are on the agenda. Check ahead of time and make sure they are on the agenda. They can withdraw from the agenda as late as 4:00 p.m. that day. That's perfectly legal. Mr. Guerra said it was on the website's announcement page.

**X. PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Chris Porter was present. She said she was from Patch.com, a new online community media organization through AOL. What she does know about the solar parks because the one that Mr. Johnson brought up is involving the Nazareth School District. The solar park, they wanted to put at the Lower Elementary School. They had a contract with Kenyan Energy out of Florida. Kenyan was going to purchase the pieces for the park itself and be in charge of the building of the park. Then the way she understands, it was to be leased to Kenyan for a period of two years for maintenance purposes. Then Kenyan gets energy credits through the Federal Government that they can submit and say we have so many energy credits and that's probably the way they make money. The school district saves and gets to reduce their electric costs by 30% to 40% which helps the Township and residents as their taxes necessarily don't have to go up to cover the cost of electric because the rate caps are taken off. She understands that glare isn't a problem as they are absorbent panels. With the Crayola one, UGI and PPL have partnered with many of these solar parks for municipalities and industries in which the property is owned by the company, but the electric goes straight to the electric company and then the company is given a credit for however much energy was produced on their land. Crayola was using that electricity to make actual crayons in their company. Mr. Johnson said the ways these companies make money is there is some kind of law in the United States that power plants have to produce so much of their electricity by

renewable methods. If they don't do it, they can buy credits from companies like this at the market value. The market value goes up and down depending how high the bids are for these credits. Remember when our school campus wanted to buy that land across the street for further expansion, for maybe for soccer fields, if a school district uses their land for a solar field, next thing you know they'll want to buy more land for soccer fields and baseball fields. That way, the taxes are going to go up for the new land they want to buy. He doesn't think the school district should get into that kind of a business.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION BY:** Ms. Ray moved for adjournment. The time was 9:03p.m.  
**SECOND BY:** Mr. Beardsley  
**ROLL CALL:** 6-0 (Mr. Hijazi – Absent)

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Sandra Yerger, Chairman

**Next EAC Meeting: Tuesday, December 14, 2010**