

## Meeting Minutes

October 10, 2013  
7:30 PM  
Conference Room D

### **Mt Lebanon Environmental Sustainability Advisory Board**

#### **Attendees:**

Andrew Baram  
Matthew Hoover  
Kathleen Hrabovsky  
Maria Joseph  
Pam Scott  
Tom Kelley, Staff Liaison & Public Works Director  
Abby Moryz-Lawmor, Mt. Lebanon Environmental Team

#### **Absent:**

Steve Noorbakhsh  
Patrick Eberz  
Scott Goldman, School Board Liaison  
Kristen Linfante, Commission Liaison

#### **High School Students:**

Maggie Dugan, Mt. Lebanon High School Student  
Liam Shi, Mt. Lebanon High School Student

#### **Others in Attendance:**

William Matthews, Mt. Lebanon Resident

**Call to order:** The official meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by Chairperson Hrabovsky.

#### **Approval of September 12, 2013 meeting minutes:**

Andrew Baram made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as submitted which was seconded by Matt Hoover and unanimously approved by the board members.

**Public Comment:** William Matthews a lifetime resident of Mt. Lebanon attended the meeting. He would like to see all of the meeting agendas and meeting notes posted to the Environmental Sustainability Advisory Board home page on the municipal website (Tom has been working with the Municipal IT Department to have these documents linked to the EAB home page.) Mr. Matthews also commented on Pay-As-You-Throw. He was concerned that charging residents for the disposal of municipal solid waste, through a fee system, could be construed as a way of shifting costs currently covered through the municipal budget directly to tax payers. He pointed out the high administrative cost of the Pay-As-You-Throw system in Cranberry Township and

would like to see more analysis on Pay-As-You-Throw before recommending it to the entire community. Mr. Matthews is in favor of increased recycling but believes that the general public needs to be educated to Pay-As-You-Throw before proceeding with the program.

## **SCHOOL BOARD BUSINESS**

### **High School Liaison Updates:**

**High School Construction:** Unfortunately Scott Goldman was unable to attend the meeting but will provide an update at a subsequent meeting.

**Other School Related Items:** Maggie Dugan, reported that the Environmental Club has ten members who will be participating in a liter pickup program along Bower Hill Road. Students will receive community service hours for participating in this event. Maggie and Liam are looking for ideas and want to become more involved in the Climate Action Plan Innovative. They reported that Lucas Nash may have received funding for his website. Kathy is exploring grant opportunities for funding an Energy Camel project. She explained the concept to the board which would involve placing camels in the front yards of homes that had achieved specific energy goals. She would need students to help make the camels.

**School Composting and Recycling:** Andrew will report additional information at the next meeting.

## **COMMISSION BUSINESS**

**Recycling Issue:** Andrew and Kathy both summarized the October 10, 2013 Commission Meeting where Pay-As-You-Throw was discussed with the commission. The next Commission Meeting is October 28<sup>th</sup> and Kathy encouraged all members to attend and to make a presentation. Six out of seven members of the EAB voted in support of moving ahead with recommending an indebt cost benefit analysis of PAYT. Patrick Eberz submitted a dissenting letter which is attached to the meeting minutes. Kathy prepared the following statement which will be read to the commission on October 28<sup>th</sup>, "Based on current data analysis, successful Pay-As-You-Throw projects, locally and nationally, we support the concept of moving forward with a Pay-As-You-Throw program in Mt. Lebanon. We also recommend an in-depth cost-benefit analysis to determine the strategies that would be most effective for Mt. Lebanon."

**Municipal Park and Recreation Facility Update-Robb Hollow Park, etc.:** The Parks Advisory Board continues to pursue placing a dog park at the base of the public works area along Cedar Blvd.

**Comprehensive Plan:** Kathy reported that the plan was summaries at the October 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the commission. The plan includes many green initiatives. Mr. McGill will be requested to make a presentation on the transportation elements of the plan to the Environmental Sustainability Board at their next meeting in November.

**Traffic Synchronization Projects:** Kathy summarized the traffic projects that were discussed at the October 8<sup>th</sup> commission meeting, which included signal and control work along Washington Road, Cochran and Beverly.

**Update Storm Sewer Work:** Kathy provided a summary of the report delivered by Municipal Engineer, Dan Deiseroth, to the commission on October 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Climate Action Plan Update:** Individual members of the Environmental Sustainability Board are working towards implementing strategies included in the last update of the Climate Action Plan.

**Storm Water Fee Project Updates:** Tom reported that an additional two residents had applied for and received rain barrel credits during the month of September.

**Rain Garden Updates:** Kathy reported that the rain garden in Mt. Lebanon Main Park received high consideration but was not selected to receive a monetary grant.

### **ESB BUSINESS**

**G-Tech Strategies Reenergized Pittsburgh:** Kathy and Amy provided a detailed accounting of their activities as G-Tech ambassadors. They are looking for municipal funding and want to focus on other energy related issues.

**Environmental Team Updates:** Abby provided a brief update on the activities of the Environmental Team. It was reported that at high school football games water bottles are going into waste receptacles not recycling bins. There are no recycling bins at any of the ball fields. This will be discussed with Scott Goldman at the next meeting of the board. Earth Day was discussed, next year the thought was to have it during the weekend of May 3<sup>rd</sup>; however, this is a bad week for high school students. The group will decide on a new date and will start organizing meetings with vendors for next year's program. The girl scouts are working on "no idling" campaign along with several other groups.

**Sustainable Pittsburgh:** The coordinators meeting was cancelled for September and Kathy is waiting to hear from Sustainable Pittsburgh for an October luncheon date. The Sustainable Exposed Event will be held on Tuesday, December 10, 2013 at 8:00 a.m. Information will be circulated on the Lebo Green website.

**Grant Opportunity Update:** Nothing new to report at this time.

**Sierra Club Solar Tour:** Event scheduled for October 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Donora, Pennsylvania Smog Conference:** Event scheduled for October 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Kathy announced that Steve Noorbakhsh will be resigning from the Environmental Sustainability Board to pursue other personal interests.

**Adjournment:** At 9:40 p.m. Andrew made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Matt and unanimously approved. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 14, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. in the municipal building.