

## Meeting Minutes

August 14, 2014

### Mt Lebanon Environmental Sustainability Advisory

- **Call Meeting to Order**

**Roll Call:**

**Attendees:**

Andrew Baram, Co-chair  
Patrick Eberz  
Pam Scott  
Abby Lawler Morycz  
Maria Joseph  
Kelly Fraasch, Commission Liaison  
Bonnie Cross, Staff Liaison

**Absent:**

Kathleen Hrabovsky, Chair

**High School Students:**

None present

- **Public Comment**

None

- **Approval of July 2014 Minutes.** Maria motioned to approve the May minutes; Abby seconded the motion. All members in attendance approved.

- **Commission Business**

- **Pay as You Throw.** Andrew informed the group that the Committee's report will be presented to the Commission at the end of September, and that a couple more review meetings are being scheduled.
- **Recycling in Commercial Districts and in Parks.** No updates.
- **Artificial Turf.** Kelly reported that the permits have not been received yet. The project was to start on August 1. Traffic patterns on Cedar have been changed. Abby asked about flooding concerns and Kelly advised that she presented slides at the discussion session showing the flooding in the area.
- **Municipal Pesticide Use.** Maria and Pam have explored what was being used on township land after the Parks Summit. Concern is with chemicals and the effect on the environment, land and citizens. Kelly followed up with Tom Kelley and advised that pesticides are not being used on the fields. Pam passed out an ESB resolution that was written in 2012, but was uncertain whether anything was done with it (See Attachment A). Maria and Pam discussed reaching out to the Parks Advisory Board. Maria had invited Hugh Beal to attend the ESB, but he was unable to be here. Kelly felt that there needed to be better communication with the public regarding pesticide use.
- **Nature Conservancy Invasive Species Plan.** Tom Schevtchuk of the Nature Conservancy spoke regarding work that the group has been doing to stop the invasive species in the Parks. Tom passed out several maps (Attachment B). The group meets every Saturday and has been funded since 2011. The strategy is to attack

the invasives doing the most damage, in addition to ivy. The best time is in the spring; in the fall, Round-up is used. Pesticide use was also discussed.

The group discussed various avenues such as LeboAlerts and social media to advise residents when and where there is an application of a pesticide or herbicide. There was also discussion about raising awareness of the work of the Conservancy and pesticide use. Maria suggested that this may also be a good project for the high school liaisons.

**Replacement for ESB Member.** Kelly reviewed Municipal Manager, Steve Feller's email regarding a new appointment. Mr. Feller advised that when the Commission last met to discuss vacancies, there seemed to be a consensus that the group would appreciate input from the advisory board concerning the skill sets that they think would be helpful for a replacement. This would be a reasonable question to ask the group and would be helpful to other Commissioners as they review applications. Maria felt that someone with storm water expertise and conservation would be helpful.

- **ESB Business**

- **Environmental Team Update.** No update.
- **Project Updates based on ESB Priority List – 2-1-14.** Patrick presented a PowerPoint that outlined cost estimates for Fuel Efficiency Training from a company call I Drive Safely that would cost approximately \$30/driver and would result in a conservative 5% reduction in fuel costs. It is internet based. Patrick also advised that Verizon had various Fleet Software options, but wasn't too specific. Another program, Fleetmatics, would cost \$39/month/vehicle. It uses a chip in each vehicle to track speed, location, fuel utilization, idling, etc. There are over 100 fleet vehicles. This would be a 36 month agreement. Patrick will discuss these items with Public Works Director, Tom Kelley. Pam questioned how the savings were derived.
- **High School Liaison Update.** Kelly asked about the involvement of the High School students. Andrew advised that their involvement with the ESB was to expose them to how a board operates and to support those regarding environmental issues at the schools. Kelly asked about possibly having a liaison between the school and the ESB and said that she would invite one of the Junior Commissioner candidates who was interested in environmental issues.

- **New Business**

- Pam brought up the topic of bees and chickens and that the Commission is trying to address these issues. Kelly advised that there were no ordinances that controlled what or how many animals were allowed by a resident. Maria felt that this topic would fall under the ESB's purview.
- Kelly and Andrew also advised the group that communications on emails and that any board document was subject to the public records law – Right to Know. Nothing is confidential.

- **Adjournment.** At 8:50 p.m., Patrick made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Abby and unanimously approved by the members present.