

## Meeting Minutes

June 12, 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 June 2014 Minutes.** Pam motioned to approve the May minutes; Patrick seconded the motion. All members in attendance approved.
- **School Board Business.** As the School Board will no longer be involved in the ESB, this category will be removed from future agendas.
  - **PTA Environmental Committee Updates.** Composting Update – Abby reported that Suzanne and she were in the beginning stages of trying to get composting in the schools. Andrew said that he and Carla from AgRecycle were still waiting to hear back from Carl Salemi. They will continue to follow up.
- **Commission Business**
  - **Pay as You Throw.** Andrew informed the group that as of the last meeting a couple of weeks ago, a document was being put together and will be publicized. It will be on the August agenda of the Commission. Andrew spoke with a woman that is an authority on PAYT, who advised that in 2006, there were 7,100 communities with such a program. By 2011, there were over 9,000 communities. The committee also discussed weekly v. bi-weekly pick-up of recyclables. There will be one more meeting of the committee. Kelly advised that she would check on the dates for the Commission agenda.

- **Recycling in Commercial Districts and in Parks.** Kelly advised that the item was still listed for funding for the unassigned fund balance, but that because the balance available had decreased, felt that there were items of greater importance on the list that should be supported. One of the items is for \$40 thousand for deer sterilization.
- **Artificial Turf.** Kelly reported that the Vasco bid of \$1 million was passed by the Commission. It included a zinc filtration system and water fountain. The municipality was still waiting on the permit from DEP. The project timeline is to start 8/1/14. The Commission has heard ample information on turf. Kelly feels there should be an ordinance requiring any turf installation to have a zinc filtration system. There are no testing requirements stipulated. Mt. Lebanon will be testing annually for lead. An additional \$50 thousand was required to fund the project and there's a \$40 thousand contingency. Patrick also felt that the water fountain should be a mandatory requirement.
- **Parks Summit.** Kelly reported that the Parks Summit, hosted by the Parks Advisory Board (PAB), included members from the ESB and the Nature Conservancy, and was a good meeting. The Summit participants agreed that:
  - Park maintenance is not what it should be;
  - There should be a staff person assigned to deal with the parks, trails, invasive plants and conservation.

Maria advised that Steve Feller needed a list of priorities with funding requirements by August-September. The ESB would review this for the next meeting. Kelly suggested if there were other projects, the ESB should compile a list to be submitted for the budget. It should be submitted in August at the latest.

**Replacement for ESB Member.** Kelly advised that the school was pulling out of the ESB membership and would advise the Commission that the ESB is requesting that the vacant position be filled.

- **ESB Business**

- **Environmental Team Update.** Abby advised that the Environmental Team would not have a table at First Fridays, but has decided to change it to the Saturday market.
- **Project Updates based on ESB Priority List – 2-1-14.** Patrick reported on making the municipal fleet more fuel efficient. He summarized his recommendations:
  - Create a fuel efficient training program to alter driver behavior and possibly use incentives.
  - Utilize fleet management software that had route optimization.
  - Hire a fleet manager.
  - Create new standards for vehicle procurement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This would include adopting a policy (a sample was provided).
  - Define a baseline for the fleet and set targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions of 25% in the first 10 years and 50% reduction in 20 years. This should be done as soon as possible.

- **New Business**

- Kelly advised that Ultra Party was coming up and that the proceeds go toward inclusive playground equipment.
- Maria questioned the use of plastic disposable water bottles for the Commissioners at their meetings.

- **Adjournment.** At 9:05 p.m., Patrick made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Maria and unanimously approved by the members present.