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Meeting Minutes

October 26, 2009

Location: Emmaus Borough Hall

Time: 7 PM

| Members: | Municipal Representatives: |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Upper Milford Township William Ahlert Bruce Snyder Christi Dunning Randy Kraft | Dan Delong (absent) |
| Borough of Emmaus Liesel Adam (Absent) Steve Baier Linda Santo Nora Goldstein | Jeff Clapper (Absent) |
| | Intern: Tyler Moore (Absent) |

1. **Approved September Meeting Minutes**

2. **Old business**

No old business was discussed.

3. **Source Water Protection Plan for Emmaus**

Jeff was absent from the meeting, but provided an update to Bill. The final copy of the plan has been received. A hard copy is available at the library, and a link is available to an electronic copy, http://www.borough.emmaus.pa.us/pdf/Final%20Cover%20&%20Report%20eb_051.pdf which has been posted on the Emmaus Borough website. A suggestion was made to have a hard copy available at the Farmers Market and other public education events next year. There was discussion on the action items from the previous, original version of the report. Which included the formation of an EAC, and to provide

education outreach, which have been done. Nora offered to look through the report and identify any additional action items.

Action: *Nora will review the report for new action items and work with Liesel, who will be the point person from the council to write up a summary of the report and actions that need to be pursued by the EAC.*

4. Centralized Garbage Survey and Emmaus Garbage collection contract.

We need to continue to educate. Future article topics suggested were leaf composting and the dangers of open burning. The group discussed the status of the Emmaus garbage collection contract, there was some concern that there are no incentives in the contract to encourage increased recycling. However, there is a new ordinance being established which will require commercial recycling.

As part of the discussion several committee members were concerned that the EAC was not contacted as part of the contract negotiations to provide input on the recycling aspects of the contract. They wanted to know if there might be ways that the EAC could be more closely involved with Borough activities in the future regarding environmental issues. It was suggested that more proactive out reach from the EAC to Borough Council might facilitate the dialogue.

Action: *Bill will reach out to Brian to request a copy of the contract, the new ordinance and a meeting with the group. Future articles on open burning and leaf composting will be coordinated by Randy Kraft. (Note: RVD has since been selected as the garbage collection provider)*

5. Leibert Creek Water Quality Monitoring

Rebecca Kennedy of the Lehigh County Conservation District is progressing with the TDML study to evaluate water quality. She has funding for WQ monitoring in several watersheds including ours. We are now sharing our water monitoring activities with RSVP, and we perform the monitoring every other month. The next sampling is November 12 and is being done by RSVP. Diane Erney, now part of the Longswamp EAC, invited Bill to discuss our sampling. The City of Allentown has agreed to continue to do our testing, and Longswamp will coordinate testing with us.

Cari Peters has agreed to combine their testing with ours. Steve has GIS overlays. It would be useful to put our data in here, and someone from Longswamp is familiar with this process. Steve also suggested adding chlorides to the water testing, as there are concerns that the brine used to treat roads in winter could be raising these levels. The Salisbury EAC sent Bill a letter thanking him for attending their meeting. Their initial focus is the preservation of South Mountain, but continued contact with our EAC and others is important.

We have \$1000 in available funding for the water meter, but the model we need is \$1200. When purchased, it could also be used for education. Steve will follow up with Cari to see if she can work out some kind of discount with her contacts to make it affordable for the group.

Action: Steve to follow up with Cari Peters on water meter.

6. Possible Funding Sources

Bill has sent letters to Emmaus and UMT to request funding for next year.

7. Public Education and Outreach

Linda volunteered to cover the Emmaus farmers market on November 1. This is the last event of the year.

Randy and Liesel are planning to attend the EAC conference. Randy will share highlights of the conference at the next meeting.

Christie and Nora have formed a subcommittee for planning the Earth Day 2010 event. Some suggestions discussed were to get recycling bins for the park and to get specially marked bags for recyclable materials. Someone also needs to follow up with the RR folks a few days before the event to ensure coverage. Another safety issue is the children who were on the highway cleanup. It would be better if we could find safer sites for them, and/or to obtain some 'men working' signs beforehand. We might also plan to assign young children to stream cleanup and riparian buffer work. Some other suggestions were to establish sites before hand. Some possibilities are

Meadow Pool and Camp Olympic. Preregistration for groups might streamline the registration process. Trail work could also be a possibility. The group could also coordinate with Lower Macungie. The event is coordinated with the Pennsylvania Great American Cleanup, and managed by Jeff Clapper.

8. **New Business**

The group discussed a possible DEP grant opportunity to be used for Education. However, the group decided not to pursue it, as it was determined that this grant was too competitive and time –consuming, and that we could not have the proposal put together in time for the Dec. 16th deadline.

Next Meeting

Location: Upper Milford (in the new building at the intersection of Rt. 100 and Kings Highway)

Date: November 23, 2009

Time: 7 PM