

PALMER TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

March 27, 2019, 6:30 PM

Minutes

1. **ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS** - The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm. In attendance were Tom Dittmar, Nancy Nicholas, Cindy Oatis, Ann-Marie Panella, Ginny Sciorra, and Doreen Shaffer. Anita Forrester was present as a guest.
2. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. January Meeting Minutes (approval postponed)
3. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. New Members Appointed by the Board of Supervisors - Doreen Shaffer and Ginny Sciorra
 - B. Introduction of Anita Forrester – The committee provided a brief overview of the committee’s purpose and direction. Ms. Forrester is well-qualified for our committee and the committee indicated they would recommend her for appointment.
 - C. Member Survey – Oatis reviewed the results of the member survey. The survey highlighted the strengths and interests of each member and will assist the committee as they move forward.
 - D. 2019 Plan of Action – Dittmar indicated that he and the committee would be welcoming input from our 3 new members. The following items were discussed:
 - i. Great American Cleanup & Possible Earth Day Event – Will begin planning for next year.
 - ii. Bushkill Stream Conservancy – The committee would like a volunteer to consider periodically attending this organization’s meetings. This would allow Palmer to stay in the loop on their efforts and events as well as allow Palmer the ability to obtain MS4 credits. Oatis indicated that while Madison Smith would be the best candidate, the hours required of her current position may not allow her participation. No members present indicated an interest or ability to do this.
 - iii. 2020 Northampton County Ecycling Event - The committee indicated an interest in hosting an ecycling event at the EAHS in 2020. Panella stated she would be willing to make this request to Northampton County.
 - iv. Local Environmental Events – The committee agreed that attending some of the many local environmental events would bring new information and insight to the committee.
 - E. Upcoming Events
 - i. LV ECO Challenge – info to follow
 - ii. Northampton County Climate Summit, Iacocca Conference Center, Wood Dining Room, 111 Research Drive, Bethlehem, May 15, 8:30-11:30am, register for free tickets at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/northampton-county-climate-summit-tickets-58373068419>
 - iii. Greater LV Chamber, Environment and Energy Summit, May 17th, 7:30AM – 11:30AM, <https://web.lehighvalleychamber.org/events> (Ginny)
 - iv. LV Watershed Conference: MS4 track; October 15, 2019

4. UPDATES/REPORTS

- A. Recycling Report – Oatis provided an update on the national and local recycling contamination issue. She also happily reported that the total of Palmer’s 902 and 904 grants is approaching the \$3 million mark.
- B. Supervisor Report – Panella reported that the township is going to be replacing the skin on the Hartley Avenue building that is currently housing our recycling carts. Recently storm damage has rendered this building unusable.
- C. Water We Share – Sciorra updated the committee on her attendance at this program, the information provided by Robert Freeman, State Representative, and the PSU master watershed steward program. Both Sciorra and Shaffer indicated an interest in applying for this program should it benefit the Township’s MS4 efforts.

5. GOOD OF THE ORDER

6. NEXT MEETING: April 24, 2018

- 7. **ADJOURNMENT** - Motion was made by Nicholas to adjourn, seconded by Dittmar, and approved by all.