

**Plymouth Environmental Advisory Board**

**February 16, 2021**

**Start time 7pm via Zoom**

Attendance: Bill, Debbie, Andrew, Carolyn, Mike C & Eunice (new member)

Staff in Attendance: Rick C & Karen B

Absent: Agam

**1.) Pledge of Allegiance**

**2.) January 2021 Minutes** – Motion to accept: Debbie; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Andy

**3) Welcome new EAB Member: Eunice Franklin-Becker**

**4) Follow-up on Smoking Ordinance proposal – next steps from Council?**

**5) Ready for 100 Plymouth –**

a) **Clean Energy Transition Planning program** – Draft ETP anticipated to be presented at the April Council workshop. The classes that Bill and Andy have been attending will continue through May 2021. Following presentation to Council, the next step would be to start community outreach and collaboration with nearby municipalities.

b) **Villanova Spring 2020 Project**– anticipate their presentation at Council’s May workshop.

c) **PECO MyAccount** training – still looking to get the mechanics set up for this training. Bill to focus on having this done soon.

d) **SolSmart certification** – <https://solsmart.org/>. This organization gives a township a standard solar permitting protocol. There is a training program on how Municipalities can write Ordinances for solar.

**6) Covanta –**

a) Plymouth Township to receive an allocation from the fine incurred by Covanta, for which Covanta agreed that they had wrong-doing. The benefit of these funds should benefit the residents most impacted by Covanta plant. The plan is to plant trees at Colwell Park & Sandwood Park. The Municipal Stormwater 4 (MS4) makes the suggestion of having a retention basin for low flow channels.

b) Contract renewal in Fall – Township is leaning toward renewing this relationship. The alternative is sending trash to a landfill, which is not a better solution.

c) PA started a state-wide air quality study that perhaps we can help leverage the data that comes out of that study. The idea was presented that we get air quality monitors (approx. \$250 each) but comes with many questions: How to fund? Where to place them? What kind of expertise is needed to read them? Where does the info go? Are they web-enabled and will data post automatically? Would the information be actionable or spur additional investigation?

Link to Covanta’s July 31, 2020 report:

<https://www.plymouthtownship.org/download/Covanta-Air-Quality-Impact-Assessment-7-31-2020.PDF>

7) **Tree Planting for Spring 2021** – Tentative date is Sat, April 24<sup>th</sup>. Rick ordered 10 trees that he'll pick up 4/21-4/23. The plan was to plant them at Wetherall Park, but suggestion to change the location to plant them in Colwell Park & Sandwood Park.

8) **Recycling** – There was a suggestion for consideration to have cardboard segregated as it may be profitable if separated from the rest of the recycling. The EAB to draft a motion to encourage the Township to pursue the segregation of paper and cardboard. We should promote the upside of cost benefits for the Township (ie: lower taxes). The motion was made by Carolyn and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Andy. The EAB decided to put Zero Waste Task Force back on the table. Rick/Bill to invite Chris Laschiavo to our March meeting to learn more from him about our Township's trash, recycling, & Covanta.

9) **Facebook** – Carolyn offered to assist with this community outreach.

10) **Website update**

11) **Announcements from Rick** – The concession stand renovation at East Valley Park is finished. The geothermal well for the remodel at the Township building is proceeding with 300 ft wrapped in the 500 ft wells. Unfortunately, there will be five air handler units instead of one on the roof of the renovated building.

Next Meeting: Tues, March 16th at 7pm - via Zoom

Meeting ended 8:50 pm. Motion to close: Eunice; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Debbie