

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION (ESC) MEETING MINUTES

September 13, 2022 AT 7:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Willistown Environmental Sustainability Commission came to order at 7:02 pm at the Willistown Township Building on 688 Sugartown Road, Malvern, PA.

Members present: Susan Vogel, Ken Lehr, Bruce Hartlein, Karl Malessa, Keith Parsons, and Jeff Richards

Township Staff: Jennifer Jacobs; Shanna Lodge, Township Manager; Mary Hundt, Parks and Recreation

Old Business

- The Minutes from the July meeting were reviewed and approved.
- Susan advised the group that the Supervisors (BOS) had approved the nomination of Keith Parsons to ESC and she welcomed him to his first meeting as a member of ESC. Welcome Keith!
- Fall Events:
 - The fall event dates are: Oct 8 eWaste; Oct 22 Chipping; and Oct 29 Shredding.
 - Committee members volunteered to work at the events as follows: eWaste: Keith, Mark and Bruce (9-10am only); Chipping: Bruce and Jeff; Shredding: Ken, Karl and Susan.
 - It was decided that a police officer and Dave from Public Works should attend all of the events.
- Ordinance update: Township Solicitor Christman is revising the existing ordinance to comply with Act 101. Susan sent out a draft to ESC for review and comment.
- Zero Waste initiative:
 - Susan is working on the grant proposal for the Chester County Zero Waste Initiative. Susan will need a letter of support from the BOS which Jennifer and Shanna said they would request.
 - The BOS had previously approved proceeding with the grant proposal.
 - Keith suggested some more environmentally sound products for the giveaway (a collapsible take home container for leftovers at restaurants). Susan will include information for two or three of the possible products in her grant proposal. The containers will have the Township logo printed on them and will be distributed at upcoming educational events. The events and cost of the containers to be funded by the \$5,000 grant.
 - Keith had volunteered to be a presenter at the educational event.

New Business

- Mary Hundt attended to introduce the CRC group to ESC. The Township and CRC often work together on projects to protect the local watersheds. Mary offered a ticket to the CSC Awards dinner on September 22. Keith Parsons will attend to represent ESC and report back.
- The new Township Manager, Shanna Lodge, introduced herself. Welcome Shanna!

- Single Hauler- Republic announced that they will no longer serve residents in Willistown and is stopping service at the end of September. Since Blosenski is already the dominant provider there has been some discussion about the Township considering a single vendor contract. Shanna had good experience with that format in Upper Uwchlan in her prior job and was supportive of the concept. She suggested that we discuss with surrounding townships that have single haulers and put together a recommendation for the Supervisors to review. Ken to contact Lisa Covatta at West Goshen, Jen to contact Pam Coleman at Westtown, and Bruce will contact Sue Smith at East Goshen and Malvern Borough. Bruce will draft some questions for the group to review prior to contact. We will report back at the October meeting.
- Susan tabled further discussion of the revised Ordinance until it is complete.
- Action Items for 2023: Susan asked each member to send her two items before the next meeting so we can discuss our goals for 2023. Jeff thinks ESC should have a mission statement so we don't become a "catch-all." Jeff has experience with this and agreed will lead a discussion on this at our fall meetings.

Citizens Comments: None

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Willistown Environmental Sustainability Commission will be held on October 11 at 7:00 pm at the Township Building. Susan will be away so Ken will be presiding.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Bruce Hartlein, Secretary