EAC Meeting Minutes – October 28, 2020

**Present**: Bill Silverstein, Sam Flint, Paul Jacobs, Ken Rose, Jon Lichtenstein, Jane Miluski, and Dave Grady.

Held Via Zoom Call

**Recycling Audit**

Discussion was held to select a date for an upcoming recycling audit at the Republic Facility. Tuesday, November 17th was selected. Additionally, Mr. Rose asked if a date could be chosen for Mr. Rose and Ms. Miluski to visit the Nether Providence Township Public Works Garage to observe the facility. Mr. Rose and Ms. Miluski would coordinate with Mr. Grady to select a date.

**General Discussion**

Mr. Rose summarized the 2010 Greenhouse Gas Report. Mr. Jacobs noted that he spoke with Mr. David Director, and he said a sustainability committee was formed around 2007. During 2008, the volunteers put together a report, and they used information from the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, which was included in the 2010 report. Shortly after, a multi-municipal sustainability committee was formed, and their information went into the Temple University report. He noted that many of the recommendations from the report, such as updating the lighting, have been completed. There are recommendations for the school district, but their EAC is not currently active. He said the Township has met most of the recommendations at this point, so many of the other recommendations are for the school district or private residents.

Mr. Rose said there were two reports from 2010 that were associated with the four municipalities. On that basis, the Township adopted a resolution related to emission reductions and a second resolution related to renewable energy. He noted it was tough to distinguish what applied to the Township, and what applied to the other communities. He put together findings from the 2010 Climate Change Action Plan, which were his summary of what he believed the report was recommending. Most of the remaining recommendations were not for the municipal government, but were, instead, for the community residents. Mr. Rose said that his guess is that because the population has not changed and the mix of residential, industrial, and agricultural zoning has not changed, there will not be significant changes to the outlook of the recommendations. It was noted the population change from 2010 to 2020 appeared to be in-line with the projections in the report.

Ms. Miluski asked if there would be value in creating a “good citizen” program to educate people in how they can make small changes with big impacts to energy usage.

Mr. Rose said he thinks we should fill-in the gaps from 2010 to 2020 to make sure we know what has changed over that period, and we could work with Mr. Director. He also suggested brainstorming ideas in how to further reduce GHG or reduce energy usage, both from the perspective of the local government and from the residents. He said this could go along with what Ms. Miluski had suggested. He noted the group should look at benefit compared ease of implementation. Mr. Silverstein said we should review what grants are available. Mr. Flint agreed that it would be important to share information with residents to begin moving the needle on energy reductions. There was additional discussion about the minimal gains from the remaining recommendations for the municipal government.

Mr. Jacobs noted that it is not difficult for people to purchase green energy, and it could be something the Township could promote. The group agreed that it was easy to figure out how much it would cost to use green energy.

Mr. Rose said the group should begin to determine the most high-value recommendations for both residents and the municipal government. He said he had begun preparing a list that could be shared with the group. Mr. Jacobs suggested categorizing the items. Ms. Miluski noted that anything presented to the public should be kept simple, or it will be easy for people to set it aside without reading the recommendations.

Mr. Grady brought up an email he received from a resident about concerns with mosquito spraying, especially regarding the chemicals. The group agreed it was worth reviewing, but at a later date.

It was decided that the next meeting would be November 23rd at 7:00 PM.