EAC Meeting Minutes – December 21, 2020

**Present**: Bill Silverstein, Sam Flint, Paul Jacobs, Ken Rose, Leo Stahl, Jane Miluski, Jason DeVries, and Dave Grady.

Held Via Zoom Call

**Recycling Audit**

Mr. Grady said a recycling audit at the Republic recycling facility took place on November 24th, and Ms. Miluski, Mr. Silverstein, and Mr. Rose attended. Mr. Silverstein discussed the audit. There was discussion about the value of materials. He was not sure what happens with low value materials. Do they have to pay to get rid of things like glass and plastic? Are they actually recycling those low value/no value items or just putting them into the trash? Ms. Miluski was concerned that the EAC should not focus on this as much, since recycling does not actually reduce the environmental footprint with all the trucks, etc. Mr. Rose said he noticed there was a lot of value in cardboard. He also asked Republic if there were other communities doing a better job of recycling than others, but the Republic Manager said everyone is pretty much on the same level. Republic said they highly doubt single-stream would ever go away since the whole system was set up that way. Mr. Rose said he was struck that nowhere wants to accept batteries for recycling. The Delaware County Household Hazardous Waste program says that alkaline batteries are supposed to be thrown into the trash, but Mr. Rose did not like that approach.

**Community Solar – HB 531**

Mr. Jacobs said he spoke with Representative Krueger, and the bill has bipartisan support. Unfortunately, the timing was bad, and it will likely be reintroduced in 2021.

**EAC Involvement in Other Committees**

Mr. Silverstein said the multi-municipal EAC has not met recently, but he said he would share the information when it is available. Mr. Rose said he thought the EAC should discuss how involved it wants to be with other groups in the region. Ms. Miluski suggested each person have an assigned group to follow. There was discussion regarding the priorities of the various groups, and it was noted that they sometimes align with the NP EAC, but not always. Mr. Grady said he knows Brian Ward at the School District, and he is involved with sustainability efforts at WSSD. Ms. Miluksi said she would be happy to contact Mr. Ward.

**Transportation Options Program – DVRPC**

Mr. Grady said a new Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission grant program just opened, which is meant to reduce the number of single vehicle trips. Examples include sidewalks and bicycle friendly projects. It was noted that the match is 20% of the project cost. Mr. Grady said he would attend the info session on January 15th.

**902 Recycling Grant**

The group reviewed the eligible activities. Mr. Grady said the group had discussed purchasing a streetsweeper at one point, but he said this program specifically excluded them. There was discussion about the Township sending out a mailing and whether or not postage would be included. Mr. Grady said the program is normally open each year.

**Newsletter Topics**

Mr. Grady showed a sample of topics for the newsletter, and there seemed to be interest in the “recycling do’s and don’ts” and “decreasing energy consumption.” Ms. Miluski noted that she would like to eventually mail something to the residents for recycling best-practices, including a sticker for the cans. She said her main interest, though, is reducing energy usage. Mr. Rose suggested starting with last year’s newsletter information as a basis. Mr. Silverstein said it is important to note that recycling should not be in any sort of bag, as he saw during the audit that bags and their contents were immediately trashed.

**Other Business**

Mr. Grady said Mr. Lichtenstein has decided to step down from the EAC due to other time commitments. The group supported making Ms. Miluski a full EAC member, as she is currently an ad-hoc member. Mr. Grady said he would let the Board of Commissioners know of her interest.

The next meeting was decided as January 27, 2021.