

SOLEBURY TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2015 MEETING

**PRESENT:** Roger Riedley (Chair), Barry Fetterolf, David Benner, Eric Allen and Christine Terranova (EAC Administrator)

**ABSENT:** Hope Blaythorne, Michael Farbotnik and Jim Searing (Liaison)

**AUDIENCE:** Michael Kennerley

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Riedley called the meeting to order at 6:55 p.m. and noted there was a quorum.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Meeting Minutes

**Upon a Motion by Barry Fetterolf, seconded by Dave Benner, the Solebury Township Environmental Advisory Council January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015 minutes were unanimously approved.**

**APPROVAL OF 2014 ANNUAL REPORT**

**Upon a Motion by Barry Fetterolf, seconded by Eric Allen, the Solebury Township EAC unanimously recommended approval of the 2014 EAC Annual Report.**

**REPORT OF OFFICERS**

**Spring Cleanup** – It was noted that Ms. Blaythorne will be working with the township and the community watersheds in coordinating the Clean Up Day schedule for April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015 (rain date being April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015). Chair Riedley stated he would contact Ms. Blaythorne to discuss the details regarding the spring cleanup and report back to the committee at the March meeting. All watersheds (Aquetong, Primrose, Paunnaucussing and Pidcock) are participating with the spring cleanup.

**Annual Committee Report** – Paul Cosdon, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, has requested that each township committee Chair give a brief 10 to 15 minutes presentation outlining what the committee did in 2014; what does the committee expect to accomplish in 2015; and, how the Board of Supervisors can help in achieving the goals. EAC Chair Riedley is scheduled to present before the Board of Supervisors at the April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015 meeting.

**REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

The following information was noted through communications from Jim Searing, Liaison for the EAC, and Township Manager, Dennis Carney regarding Clean Up Day on April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015:

1. The township will post information on the dates and places for the cleanup events on the township website and email system as soon as things are confirmed and as we get closer to the event.
2. The township will procure the supplies for all the watersheds, if that is what the group prefers. The EAC Administrator, Christine Terranova, will need the registration number that is given by the Great American Cleanup PA program when each watershed group registers, unless every group is in agreement to register as one entire group. This will enable the township to gain access to the right amount of supplies. Christine will be responsible for obtaining the supplies from the state. The supplies will then be available at the township building and watershed representatives will be able to pick up their supplies prior to the day of the event.
3. Township Public Works employees will pick up the trash bags the week after the cleanup. It would be best for each individual group to define the place(s) that the trash bags will be accumulated and notify the township. There can be multiple locations as long as the township is made aware of the multiple locations.
4. The township may be able to get police coverage, if the watershed associations can, with plenty of advance notice, provide when and where on the busiest roads (e.g. Windy Bush, Suga & River) they would need police coverage.

### **Guest – Michael Kennerley – Deer Management Discussion**

Chair Riedley introduced and welcomed Michael Kennerley to the committee to speak about the deer management program.

Mr. Kennerley attended the meeting to discuss with EAC the past, present and future issues of deer management within the township. There are many solutions and options to the problem of deer management. Mr. Kennerley stated that Solebury Township needs help in maintaining the deer population within the township. It was noted that the USDA will be providing the township with an annual, estimated count of deer in March, 2015. A major part of the problem is the number of car accidents, farmers' crop damage and tree damage. Lyme disease is also a major contributor to the human population through the deer population. If the township would consider placing the USDA back into the township, then the deer population would most likely decrease similar to the first time the USDA was contracted by the township to hunt the deer. The township would have to spend the money to decrease the population and then continue to maintain control of the deer. The goal should be to first decrease to a manageable number of deer and maintain from that point. Also, the township will need a solution for disposing of the dead deer that are hunted. The start in resolving the deer population issue is convincing the township to support a management program. It was suggested to reach out to Senator Chuck McIlhinney, Jr. for additional support.

Here is a list of items that are a result of the over population of deer:

1. Car damage – collisions with deer
2. Crop damage – dramatic impact from deer
3. Environmental issues
4. Damage to gardens and landscaping
5. Tree damage – damage to forests
6. Soil erosion and ground water runoff damage
7. Wildlife – bird population (especially the song birds) living lower to the ground
8. Lyme Disease to human and animal population

It was suggested that EAC make a financial case, along with statistics over the last few years, to the Board of Supervisors for support against the deer population. Mr. Kennerley offered his cell phone number if anyone would like to contact him. Mr. Kennerley provided numerous articles to Ms. Terranova to copy and distribute to all the committee members regarding deer population throughout the United States.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **BOS/EAC Priorities**

Chair Riedley asked the committee to think about EAC priorities for 2015 and offer any suggestions on what they felt was an important issue that should be addressed by the committee.

### **EAC Member Priority Assignments**

Chair Riedley mentioned an email that he had sent out to all committee members in which he has assigned an area of interest to each member to track the progress of the EAC's efforts and report to EAC at each monthly meeting. In addition, each member should prepare a draft article to be placed in the Solebury Messenger at some particular time this year. He added that everyone needs to prepare written materials on the subject areas in order to be the basis of the annual committee report to be presented to the Board of Supervisors on April 7, 2015.

### **Deer Management – Eric Allen**

It was suggested that EAC draft two or three separate articles to be published in The Messenger throughout the year to address options in deferring deer management.

### **Community Events – Hope Blaythorne**

March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015 – Primrose Creek Watershed Annual Meeting will be held in Phillips Mill, Solebury Township.

March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015 – Watershed Coalition Meeting at Bowman’s Hill, River Road, Solebury Township.

The Stream Naming Contest is to be placed on the May EAC Agenda for discussion. There are three streams unnamed in Solebury Township and hope to announce the winners of the contest at Community Day in September, 2015.

### **Ingham Spring/Aquetong Lake – Barry Fetterolf**

Subsequent to the meeting, it was announced that Flyway Excavating was awarded the bid to remove part of the dam at Ingham Spring. Princeton Hydro will be dealing with the removal and care of the fish that remain in the lake. Mr. Fetterolf stated that as the supervisors are making their decisions concerning the Ingham Spring/Aquetong Lake they should keep EAC “in the loop” and let EAC be involved and a part of the decisions. It was suggested that an article be placed in The Messenger to give the history of EAC and to help the supervisors to be aware of EAC’s interest in the lake.

### **Solebury Day – Hope Blaythorne**

Ms. Blaythorne will report on Solebury Day at the March meeting.

### **Audubon Bird Town – Nothing to report**

### **Calendar Awareness Articles for Messenger**

The current draft review dates were discussed by the committee.

### **Updates on Watershed Associations – Nothing to report**

**PUBLIC COMMENT** -- None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Upon a Motion by Barry Fetterolf, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Christine Terranova  
EAC Administrator