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**West Reading Environmental Advisory  
Council**

**500 Chestnut Street  
West Reading, PA 19611**

**610-374-8273**

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**MEETING MINUTES  
August 27, 2018**

**Members Present**

Chairperson Jenna Hiester; Council Member Philip Wert; Residents Karin Long, Ryan Lineaweaver and Patrick Kaag, Borough Manager Cathy Hoffman and Assistant to the Borough Manager Cynthia Madeira.

**Visitors Present**

There were no visitors present.

**Call to Order**

Chairperson Jenna Hiester called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

**Approval of Minutes**

Moved by Mrs. Long and seconded by Mr. Wert to approve the minutes of July 23, 2018.

**Old Business**

- a) Yard Waste Disposal Collection – Mr. Wert noted Council's approval of overtime to provide a trial yard waste disposal collection at the Borough Garage on the first Saturday of the month from 9 AM to Noon for the months of September, October and November. The Public Works Department will be requested to keep a log of the types and amount of material dropped off by residents. Acceptable items to drop off are branches, bushes, stumps and vegetation.
- b) Harvest Festival – Mr. Kaag stated he would provide a game and/or activity for this event being held on October 6, 2018. Ms. Hiester suggested a gift for providing street cleaning or collection of trash, and she will inquire with Dean Rohrbach as available cleanup supplies that may be left over from the Earth Day event. Table and tent setup should be discussed with the Recreation Director prior to the event.
- c) Nature Photography Contest Fundraiser – Mrs. Long provided an overview of this proposed fundraiser contest. Residents can submit photographs of a nature scene or natural object within the Borough throughout the four seasons. A disclaimer for the submission of photographs would be noted stating the Borough may reproduce the photographs without monetary compensation to the contributor. The four season photographs must be received by June 21, 2019 allowing voting on the submissions until July 21, 2019. There will be an adult and child category with an appropriate gift certificate to a local business or restaurant. The winning photo submission would be used to create a

set of four ceramic coasters sold by the Environmental Advisory Council to fund environmental initiatives within the Borough. Photos are to be submitted to the EAC email and reviewed for appropriate content prior to posting. Creation of the coasters was discussed with the intent to provide a local business the opportunity to include their name in marketing of the fundraiser.

- d) Met-Ed Energy Audit – A draft energy audit received today was provided to committee members to review and provide feedback during next month's meeting.

Adjourn the public meeting at 7:29 p.m. to begin a working session on the PA Sustainable Communities Certification.

Mr. Wert provided login information for the Sustainable Pennsylvania Community Certification website and noted the types of documentation requested could be directed through a link to the municipal website. A separate tab on the Environmental Advisory Council webpage could be created to list the required sustainability documentation, articles, photographs, municipal resolutions, case study and/or links to pertinent information. The Committee began review of the topics and questions and proceeded to enter information making notes as to areas where the Borough could improve their sustainability status. The following steps were reviewed:

- Step 5 Local & Regional Cooperation - Review of existing cooperation agreements is needed to ensure conflict resolution provisions are in place;
- Step 7 Public Safety - Mutual aid agreements and comprehensive plans were discussed.
- Step 8 Local Food - Incentives for participation within the community garden and the Farmers' Market were discussed.
- Step 9 Healthy People – Exercise, recreation and use of pesticides were discussed.

### **Adjournment**

The workshop adjourned at 8:42 PM.

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**Next Meeting: Monday, September 24, 2018 at 7:00PM at  
West Reading Borough Hall**