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**West Reading Environmental Advisory  
Council**

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

**610-374-8273**

**E-mail: [eac@westreadingborough.org](mailto:eac@westreadingborough.org)**



**MEETING MINUTES  
July 23, 2018**

**Members Present**

Chairperson Jenna Hiester; Council Member Philip Wert; Residents Karin Long and Patrick Kaag and Assistant to Borough Manager Cynthia Madeira.

**Visitors Present**

There were no visitors present.

**Call to Order**

Chairperson Jenna Hiester called the meeting to order at 7:12 PM.

**Approval of Minutes**

Moved by Mr. Wert and seconded by Mr. Kaag to approve the minutes of June 25, 2018.

**Old Business**

- a) Met-Ed Energy Audit – Consolidated Engineers requested drawings, including window specifications pertaining to the addition to Borough Hall in order to identify potential conservation recommendations. The engineer assured Mrs. Madeira that the report would be available in time for the next Environmental Advisory Council meeting in August.
- b) PA Sustainable Communities Certification – Mr. Wert plans to create an account and share login information with the committee prior to the next meeting to allow familiarity of the website. The committee agreed to devote the final 15-30 minutes of each meeting to work through the application checklist.
- c) Yard Waste Disposal Collection – Ms. Heister spoke with the Public Works Director to finalize arrangements for the first Saturday of August to allow yard waste drop off at the Borough Garage. Mr. Murray indicated that Council approval is required prior to authorizing overtime, Mr. Wert plans to request Council's approval during the August Council meeting. Therefore, a new proposed trial date for yard waste drop off would be the first Saturday of September from 8:00 a.m. to Noon. Acceptable items to drop off are branches, bushes, stumps and vegetation. Mr. Wert suggested reviewing the potential to join Wyomissing Borough with their yard waste removal program from March through December.
- d) West Reading Nature Photography Contest Fundraiser – Mrs. Long proposed a four-season nature contest to run from fall to summer. The individual submitting the photo

would provide a picture of the same item/scene during all four seasons. Mrs. Long intends to create a flyer with the prize area left blank to request business donations for the award.

- e) Recycling on Penn Avenue – Mrs. Long offered to photograph her husband as a Star Wars character placing recyclable material into one of these containers to post on social media in order to promote an interest in properly disposing recyclables.

### **New Business**

- a) Concerts in the Park – Ms. Heister offered EAC assistance for the upcoming concert on July 29<sup>th</sup>. Committee members plan to attend the concert to evaluate how trash and recyclable materials are handled to determine what assistance could be offered during future events.
- b) Harvest Fall Festival – The committee discussed ideas to educate children during this event being held on October 6<sup>th</sup> by offering games/giveaways. In conjunction with this event Ms. Heister suggested a street cleaning raffle with tickets provided for every 15 minutes of service to win prizes, such as gift cards to a Penn Avenue business. Mrs. Long suggested requesting a local orchard attend the event to sell hot apple cider.
- c) Public Engagement Ideas - Mrs. Long shared photos of painted rock ideas for a Berks County Rocks treasure hunt to promote public interest on the EAC Facebook page.

### **Tabled Business**

- a) Cigarette disposal at Reading Hospital
- b) Earth Day 2019
- c) Hauler Contract Update for 2019:
  - 1) Recycling for Special Events and Businesses
  - 2) Yard Waste Collection/Permanent Disposal Site

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

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**Next Meeting: Monday, August 27, 2018 at 7:00PM at  
West Reading Borough Hall**