

The regular meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) was held tonight.

Voting members present were: Dottie Baumgarten, Barbara Duffy, Jonathan Essoka, David McVeigh-Schultz, and Lorna Rosenberg. Staff present: Bryan T. Havir, Assistant Township Manager. (See attached attendance sheet).

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman Schultz called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

2. **Acceptance of Meeting Minutes** –Mr. Schultz asked for the following corrections: Under America in Bloom discussion, the comment referencing Transition Towns website was for the EAC to contact the 5 Cheltenham gardening groups listed on their site; under Friends of High School Park presentation about workshops supported by the WREN grant, that the Glenside Library be a site to host one of the rain barrel workshops, and in the same discussion, delete "High School Park" and to replace it with "Abington Middle School". Mr. Essoka made a motion to accept the May 21, 2012 minutes as corrected; seconded by Ms. Baumgarten. The motion was unanimously approved.

3. **Committee Reports** -

A. **Watershed Committee** – Ms. Duffy presented her report on the following:

- It was noted members of the Watershed/Flooding Ad Hoc Committee met before the regular EAC meeting this evening to discuss the Glenside Areas Flood Protocols provided by Department of Environmental Protection discussed at the Public Works Committee Meeting on June 13, 2012. Discussion ensued regarding the recommendations as positive and moving in the right direction. Mr. Schultz said DEP should work with Philadelphia Water Department (PWD) on sharing information on relief from flooding and water quality. Mr. Schultz discussed infiltration at Renninger Park and was leaning toward limited ponding and infiltration. The committee would like to see all three recommended sites presented to the Public Works Committee used for water retention ponds. DEP discussed lowering portion of the park by 2-3 feet and still have a recreation field. Mr. Havir suggested to Mr. Schultz to document his recommendations on a plan. Ms. Baumgarten spoke about a demonstration project at Germantown Academy involving rain from roof leaders being diverted to rain gardens. She recommended a feasibility study utilizing canopy trees and vegetated areas for stormwater BMP's. Joanne Dahme at the (PWD) may be a good contact. Mr. Schultz suggested that Mr. Malach of DEP be contacted to do initial outreach with PWD. Discussion continued regarding the Mack Electric site with the option to use this site before looking at Renninger Park.
- Ms. Baumgarten, Mr. Schultz, Ms. Duffy and Mr. Havir attended the Tookany-Tacony/Frankford Watershed Partnership Watershed Milestone Event on May 31,

2012. The Cedarbrook Middle School Teachers were honored as well as Nancy Minich, NAM Planning & Design.

- The Mural Arts Project at the Keswick Underpass is 90% completed. Titles for the project were selected. A new opportunity for another mural arts project has become available for the Easton Road Underpass with a transportation and environmentally sustainable theme. If funded, Mr. Havir asked for the support of the Cheltenham Township EAC and EDTF Committees with fundraising efforts starting in the fall and through spring. The EAC members agreed to support the EDTF and Glenside business community, including the Farmers' Market and the Motorcycle Shop.
- Ms. Duffy reported the Riparian Corridor Conservation District was reviewed at the last Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting. The Committee recommended more changes to the draft and review by the Staff. Mr. Duffy recommended going back to original working committee of Mr. Panzak, Ms. Erlich, Ms. Weiner, Ms. Monheim and Ms. Duffy to review and bring back recommended actions to the EAC for review. Mr. Schultz requested the draft ordinance be circulated to the EAC once the County makes its most recent amendments per the Parks & Recreation Committee recommendations. Discussion on education and outreach ensued regarding a fifteen minute presentation. Perhaps have the TTF presentation taped and placed on Channel 42 and website with a link to TTF.
- Ms. Rosenberg will work with David Cohen to endorse a greener Wyncote and for green space.

B. Transportation Committee – Ms. Chadwick was not present to give her report.

C. Building Report – Ms. Rosenberg reported on the following:

- Update on Wyncote Elementary School at the last facilities meeting of the School Board and noted it recommended multi-story building because of fewer parking spaces, and review of safety with the traffic pattern. Architect will review. The School District should look at the whole plan globally and evaluate small property needs small school.
- There is still no development on a long term community-based strategic plan with resident input on sustainable School District facilities and sustainable capital improvements.
- Existing School District Administration Building will be renovated.
- Arcadia University sent out their sustainability goals based on the Township's goals and fit their activities under Transportation, Watershed and Building. It was recommended this be brought to the General Committee for the Sustainability Plan.

- Spoke with an EnerNoc representative about a pilot program involving a learning opportunity for students for monitoring energy use at the School District.
- Stephanie Clymer presented a Stormwater Management Challenges Presentation with 20 students in attendance.
- Single Stream Automated Recycling – Susan O’Grady, Director of Communications and Development is on board to work with Ms. Gibson to get word out to Township residents. Ms. Rosenberg continues to work with School District on recycling.
- Mr. Schultz noted that the Age Restricted Zoning Overlay Ordinance was reviewed at the Public Works Committee meeting and the catch all phrase for inspection was removed.

D. Communications Committee – Ms. Baumgarten presented a written report which was distributed and reviewed at the meeting. (See attached). The monthly e-newsletter included information regarding the mural arts project, Meyers School, Arts in the Park, Milestones, and a Cheltenham Clean Water Tip. Ms. Baumgarten asked the EAC members to alert her about any information they have for the newsletter. Ms. Baumgarten asked Ms. Rosenberg if she could write up two or three sentences for sustainability and links to other websites. Ms. Baumgarten mentioned the electronic billboard on Limekiln Pike at 309 Expressway to be used to promote EAC information. She stated the information tends to flash too quickly to read.

Website Development - Ms. Baumgarten noted that Ms. Forman sent a summary today of three new pages with 2 of 5 topics to Ms. Gibson, the Township’s Public Information Officer to post on the website. She asked Ms. Gibson to clarify what information she wants EAC to look over.

E. Energy Committee – Mr. McHugh was not present to offer his report.

4. *Old Business:*

A. Sustainability Plan Development – Ms. Rosenberg reported that a Steering Committee meeting was held on Tuesday, June 12, 2012 and the next General Committee Meeting will be held at Curtis Hall on Thursday, June 21, 2012. The Steering Committee discussed the last four remaining Goal Topics which will be the subject of the next General Committee meeting, and then have a full draft plan. The various sections of the Plan will also include a discussion on Public Process and Municipal Process; Implementation and General Format; Executive Summary, Goals

and Objectives and baseline analysis and monitoring. Mr. Schultz stated that he will e-mail some recommendations on municipal actions, regulations and policies, and provide written comments to Mr. Essoka and Ms. Rosenberg.

B. America in Bloom (AIB) Evaluation Report – As part of the EDTF and EAC matrix, Mr. Essoka noted that some of the beautifications recommendations in the AIB report have been initiated such as: The Mural Art Project at the Keswick Avenue Underpass; La Mott Historic District signage and Park Entrance Plantings. If the Township would apply for the 2013 AIB award, it would be nice to highlight the above accomplishments. Mr. Havir is pursuing a PHS initiative called One Million Trees with the intent to secure new trees to be planted in the Township Parks. Under AIB's Landscaping and Community Involvement criteria, there was a discussion on community gardening clubs and food gardens such as High School Park, CreekSide, Robinson Park, La Mott, Old York Road, Ramah Day Camp and Kol Ami Congregation CSA. A garden club summit was suggested to share common information and create organization between gardening groups and to coordinate efforts with the Township.

5. *New Business* –

A. FY 2012 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant Opportunity for Environmental Stewardship. Mr. Havir stated that the pre-proposal is due July 2, 2012. The intent would be to file a conservation stewardship and stabilization project for streambank restoration for either the Rock Creek Tributary or a section of bank stabilization between Central Avenue and Ashmead Road. Ms. Baumgarten made a motion to encourage the Township to submit a pre-proposal; seconded by Mr. Essoka.

B. Single Stream Automated Recycling Promotional Campaign – Mr. Havir reported that the Township Manager is working with Staff to develop a Public Relations Plan to share with the

Board of Commissioners for August. The Public Relations plan will use a multi-faceted approach, including an article in the fall update newsletter and Press Releases every month September through December. A Flyer will be sent to the schools in September. Outreach will be made to 9,491 households. A response card for choice of 35, 65 or 95 gallon container will be necessary. If no response card is received, the 65 gallon container will be the default container. The first container will be free for property owners and subsequent containers will have fee. Discussion ensued regarding outreach suggestions such as flyers for the EAC table at the Harvest Festival, possible inserts in EMS flyer mailing, use of Electronic Billboard, an Open House Event at the School District where students would be able to sit in the new recycling truck before use and take photographs in hard hats. It was suggested a Speakers Bureau be created for Wyncote, Melrose Park and High School Park just like Arts in the Park. Mr. Havar suggested that recycling containers could be displayed at the Township Building, La Mott Community Center and Rowland Community Center and possibly at The Cheltenham Square Mall. Ms. Baumgarten volunteered to take some container samples to the Glenside Farmers' Market.

6. Announcements

- DCNR Awards Program – Mr. Havar noted that nominations are due December 28, 2012. He believes that the High School Park Meadow Restoration Project may qualify. He asked the EAC to review and consider filing a nomination.
- Effective June 29, 2012, Mr. Havar will be Acting Township Manager until a replacement is found. Mr. Havar said he will be assigning Nancy Gibson as the EAC Staff Liaison.
- Mr. Fran Rubert, the Township's Recreation and Parks Advisor for PADCNR Bureau of Recreation & Conservation, Southeastern Region, passed away recently and will be missed.

June 18, 2012 7:30 p.m.
Township Administration Building

7. Adjournment – Ms. Baumgarten made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mr.

Essoka. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.



Bryan T. Havir
Acting Township Manager

Submitted by:
Kathryn McDevitt

Communications Committee report, June 18, 2012

One newsletter was sent out including information on Keswick Avenue Mural, Glenside, Myers Elementary LEED Certification, LaMott Garden Tour, Arts in the Park, and TTF Watershed Milestone award. A Cheltenham Clean Water Tip will be included in each newsletter at Nancy Gibson's Request.

Deb Forman continues her work on behalf of the EAC website:

"In addition to the pages that I've already prepared, I've attached three new pages that provide just a brief outline of 2 of the 5 topics we decided on. The partners page will be page number 6. For the 5 main topics, I started with two Topics: Building Green and Our Green Habitat. Each page will be designed as shown in Our Green Habitat.

Each page contains information that was previously on the website. Committee leads (Lorna and Barb/Jonathan) are asked to review the byline (in blue), the content in the main section of the page and the list of popular topics that relate to their area. Any questions or additions/corrections, please just mark up the page and send it to me. For the next meeting I'll have the other 3 topics for the team leads. Once we have all the content agreed, I will forward everything to Nancy for her approval.

The Partners page should be reviewed by the EAC group to ensure that we are not missing anything. These were the links that I had captured previously. I will look back into my notes to see if there is anything missing, but didn't want to wait before sharing this one, so even if it's not quite complete, please offer to the EAC for review. "

Sincerely,

Dottie Baumgarten