

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

Members present were Dottie Baumgarten, Martin Carey, Barbara Duffy, Jonathan Essoka, David McVeigh-Schultz, and Lorna Rosenberg. Ex-officio members present were Tom Bale, Natalie Hursky, Robert Hyslop, Tom McHugh. Guest present was Adrienne Redd. The Township Liaison present was Nancy K. Gibson, Public Information Officer. (See attached attendance sheet.)

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

2. *Acceptance of Meeting Minutes* – Mr. Schultz made a motion to accept the May 20, 2013 meeting minutes; seconded by Ms. Baumgarten. The motion was unanimously approved.

3. *Google Apps Presentation* – Mr. Carey presented a ten-minute tutorial on Google Apps that addressed log in, forwarding emails to other email accounts, and accessing the draft website. Ms. Rosenberg thanked Mr. Carey for the presentation and noted Communications would be the first committee report from now on.

4. *Committee Reports:*

A. *Communications* – The committee met on June 5, 2013, and will meet again in July. Ms. Baumgarten reminded everyone to submit information for the newsletter to Mr. Carey. She also asked members to please access their Google Apps accounts and review the draft Sustainable Cheltenham website. Ms. Baumgarten noted that the communications sub-committee recommended forming an ad hoc committee (Ms. Forman, Rosenberg, Gibson and Mr. Carey) to plan for Cheltenham's Sustainability Awards Program to be held in December. Discussion would include public relations, nominations, evaluations and event planning (see attached report). Mr. Schultz circulated a sign-up sheet for volunteers from the EAC who attend various Township events to staff an information table.

B. *Water and Ecology Committee* - The committee met on May 28, 2013 and will meet again in September (see attached report). Ms. Duffy asked Mr. Hyslop if he had received satisfactory responses to his questions from Jim Innes, Carrier Class Site Development and Mark Malack of the PA Department of Environmental Protection regarding the Glenside Flood Control Project. Mr. Hyslop said he received good information from both. While Mr. Hyslop wants to clarify a few more points, he felt no action was required from the EAC at this time.

C. *Energy and Emissions Committee* - The committee met on May 30, 2013 and will meet again in July (see attached report). Mr. McHugh stated that PECO could easily provide a one-sheet synopsis of Township electricity usage information for the past twelve months, which he would like to obtain. Mr. McHugh also noted that Mr. Mettler is sponsoring an event on June 23, 2013 from 2-5 p.m. to evaluate the pedestrian and biking safety at approximately 36 intersections throughout the Township using evaluation forms developed by the State. Volunteers will visit the intersections and fill out the evaluation forms on that day. An ice cream social will follow. Discussion ensued about if the communications committee could assist with the information gathering by offering an online process. If there are not sufficient volunteers to assist, Ms. Rosenberg suggested breaking down the 36 intersections into smaller groups. Mr. Schultz felt there was an urgency to complete this evaluation project to present at the Public Safety Committee on July 3, 2013. Mr. McHugh will speak with Mr. Mettler. Ms. Rosenberg would also like to follow-up with the School District on the Neighborhood Walks in the fall. Mr. McHugh reported that Mr. Ahrens was in the process of coordinating for the EAC a visit to a home located off of Greenwood Avenue with rooftop solar panels plus geothermal heating and cooling. The owner of the

property recommends the Township streamline its application process for energy-efficient system installations. Mr. McHugh stated that the committee had two very good presentations: LED & Induction Streetlighting and Fossil Fuel Divestment.

D. School Board Liaison Committee – Ms. Rosenberg reported that the committee last met on April 4, 2013 (see attached report). Ms. Rosenberg gave a brief update of current activity: The School District will have a new School Superintendent on July 1st; Green School Policy is under review; Ms. Rosenberg and a School Board member attended a June 7th Delaware Valley Green Building Council Workshop focused on Energy Management; and Ms. Rosenberg suggested having a Green Team with members of the United Parents Group and Facility Management. Also, the School District is contracting with a new bus company who will be using alternative fuel (propane).

5. *Old Business:*

A. Sustainable Cheltenham Festival - Ms. Rosenberg noted that she, Mr. Schultz, Ms. Duffy and Ms. Shaffran conducted a brief review of the event and generally felt good about the representation from organizations and vendors. Although the event was good, attendance was low but represented quality if not quantity. Plans for next year include possibly partnering with Arts in the Park. Ms. Rosenberg will follow up with representatives from the Friends of High School Park.

6. *New Business:*

A. Sustainability Awards Program - Discussion ensued about the planning process for the Sustainable Awards Program. They will look at how other communities handled the planning, nominations, public relations, evaluations and the award event. Ms. Gibson suggested surveys/nominations for the Award nominations could be placed on the

Township's website or Sustainable Cheltenham website. Ms. Gibson also noted that the next Township newsletter published in the fall could include an announcement regarding the Awards. Mr. McHugh recommended having a commercial property owner award as well as residential and student awards.

B. Discussion of Municipal Action Plan (MAP) Implementation – Mr. Schultz and Ms. Rosenberg thought the EAC needs to obtain underlying data from Township Administration and Department Heads to track any effects of implementing the MAP goals. The Committee will need to specify exactly what data they want so the Township can evaluate if it is accessible. A meeting has been scheduled to discuss this with the Township Manager. Mr. Schultz distributed a revised copy of the MAP goals indicating responsible departments. Ms. Gibson informed the committee that the original list of MAP goals was shared with the Department Heads at the last Township Staff meeting. Mr. Shultz volunteered to input the information into an Excel matrix that Township Staff could use to report updates. Ms. Rosenberg contacted Sustainable Pittsburgh and Sustainable New Jersey for other ideas.

C. Pension Fund Fossil Fuel Divestment - Mr. McHugh announced that as a result of an eloquent commentary delivered by Mr. Bale at the Energy and Emissions Sub-Committee, it was voted unanimously to present to the EAC. Mr. Bale distributed a revised letter regarding Pension Fund Fossil Fuel Divestment, which he felt addressed the Cheltenham Sustainability Plan on global warming and climate change. He wants the Township to divest its employee pension fund of all investments that support fossil fuels over the next five years and stop any new investments immediately. Mr. McHugh asked that the EAC endorse this recommendation and volunteered to write a resolution. A few

communities in the nation have already committed to this approach. Several members expressed their concerns and requested additional information, including the impact such divestitures have made on the pension funds of participating communities, before making any recommendation.

7. *Announcements:*

- Cheltenham Tree Tenders Reunion will be hosted by EAC and PHS on Thursday, July 25, 2013 at Curtis Hall.
- Mr. Essoka announced that the Old York Road Community Group of Synagogues (OYRCGS) has agreed to work with the EDTF and the Township to implement some of the recommendations from the 2011 America in Bloom evaluation. A gardening summit among Township gardening groups has been scheduled for July 2, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. at Keneseth Israel Reform Congregation. A notice will be going out to the OYRCGS and gardeners. A copy of the notice will be sent to Mr. Carey.

8. *Staff Report :*

A. At the request of the Township Manager, Ms. Gibson informed the Committee that converting the Emergency Medical Service building from oil to gas will cost approximately \$13,320, which is over budget. Furthermore, Mr. Havir was concerned about proceeding with this project when the Administration Building heating system has failed and must be replaced. Ms. Rosenberg commented that a functioning heating system has to be a priority.

June 17, 2013 7:30 p.m.
Township Administration Building

B. Ms. Gibson announced that the new calendars have arrived and they feature the sustainability theme throughout, the biggest push to date to educate the community about Sustainable Cheltenham.

9. *Adjournment* – Ms. Baumgarten made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Ms Duffy. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.



Bryan T. Haver
Township Manager

Submitted by:
Kathryn McDevitt

CHELTENHAM TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL-2013

Committee: Communications Committee

Liaison to the Council: Dottie Baumgarten/ Martin Carey

Date of last meeting: June 5, 2013

Date of next meeting: July, 2013

Questions for the board/larger group:

- Newsletter: Information for the Newsletter this month needs to be emailed to Martin Carey
 - Google Apps: how can we move forward with all of us using Sustainable Cheltenham Google Apps? 10 minutes lesson each EAC Meeting
 - Website development review: The Sustainable Cheltenham Website is ready for review and input. EAC Committee Chairs, (and others) your input is requested
- . EAC Awards Ceremony in early December: We will recognize various categories: individuals, organizations, non profits, etc. We need discussion of this at the EAC meeting: we propose 4 ad hoc committees: Public Relations (getting the word out), Nominations (deciding the categories, and collecting/making nominations), Evaluations (choosing the winners) and Event Committees.

Action Items Completed:

- June EAC newsletters: May 22 and May 30
- June Communications Committee Meeting on June 5, 2013

Action Items In-progress/Pending:

- Municipal Action Plan: EAC oversight of Cheltenham Township's progress: Meeting with Bryan Havir on July 15 4:30, to discuss setting up a evaluation template (and possibly July 1 4:30)
- Google Apps for Business education for Council members
- Sustainable Cheltenham Website development
- EAC Awards Ceremony, December 2013

Other Notes:

- July Communications Committee Meeting agenda item: Determine interest/tasks/skills/commitment and goals of Communications Committee Members

CHELTENHAM TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL-2013

Committee: Energy & Emissions

Liaison to the Council: Tom McHugh

Date of last meeting: May 30, 2013

Date of next meeting: July, 2013

Questions for the board/larger group:

- The PECO electric commercial account representative should easily be able to provide one page "look-back" electric consumption and charges reports for all 33 municipal electric accounts. That information can then be used to compare and research the economic feasibility of "Smart Power" clean renewable energy electric generation.

Action Items Completed:

- Presentation by Mark Dunn to E & E on 5/30/13 regarding induction street lighting
- Presentation by David McVeigh-Schultz regarding EAC and subcommittee operations on 5/30/13
- Letter completed by Tom Bale regarding divestment from fossil fuel companies over the next five years – see letter attached

Action Items In-progress/Pending:

- Evaluation of LED and Induction street lighting – Tom McHugh
- Discussion of fossil fuel divestment – Tom Bale & all members
- Evaluation of streets and key intersections for pedestrian and biker safety – Bill Mettler
- Hoping to do an analysis of sourcing municipal electricity from wind – Bill Mettler & Tom McHugh
- Community outreach and interaction regarding the goals of Sustainable Cheltenham through our school programs – Kurt Ahrens

Other Notes:

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CHELTENHAM TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL-2013

Committee: Water & Ecology

Liaison to the Council: Barbara Duffy

Date of last meeting: May 28, 2013

Date of next meeting: September 17, 2013

Questions for the board/larger group:

- Update on DEP's Glenside Flood Plan- does letter need to be sent?

Action Items Completed:

- On June 15th, we hosted a tour given by Enviroscope, Inc. project leader, John (and owner, Ed) of the completed streambank restoration at Ralph Morgan Park – 12 participated in the tour with 6 volunteers who stayed to help cutback knotweed in prep for spraying in fall. (Thanks goes out to John & Ed who travel from North Jersey to volunteer their time to come and do the tour. Special thanks to Ed who stayed and helped with the knotweed cutback!)
- Sustainable Cheltenham Festival on June 1st – great vendor participation, but low community turnout. Overall still a great day- vendors felt it was a productive day & participants went away with valuable information.
- Attended the TTF Watershed Milestones Award Ceremony & Reception on May 22, 2013- Cheltenham was awarded the "Municipal Partner Award". We had a great turn out by Cheltenham Commissioners, EAC members & Town Manager, Bryan Havir.

Action Items In-progress/Pending:

- Coordinating with Public Works- Park Maintenance Superintendent to work on invasive species controls in the parks as well as mapping out more "no mow" zone.
- Following flooding projects (DEP & Army Corps.)
- Working on ideas to host more rain barrel and rain garden workshops, plus tours of demonstration projects & creating more community demonstration projects to show how we can all be involved in decreasing stormwater runoff.
- Preparing for Fall riparian planting at Parkview Park (Targeting July for cutback of knotweed in planting site then targeting late October for planting.)
- Meeting with other EAC committees to brainstorm ideas for 2014 Sustainable Cheltenham Festival- looking into possibly collaboration with another community event.
- Continuing with "Turn a New Leaf" campaign at upcoming township events.
- Following TTF Partnership and their Trash Task Force
- Native Plant ordinance (still pending)
- Participation in Curtis Arboretum Master Plan development.
- Attending TD Green Streets Tree Planting Project planning meeting.

Announcements:

- Cheltenham Tree Tenders Reunion hosted by EAC & PHS on Thursday, July 25th at Curtis Hall.

- b. Establish a walking school bus
 - c. Re activate the building Dashboard
 - d. Promote no waste lunch
 - e. Energy management by students + many more ideas
 - f. Question how to engage teachers?
2. Water infiltration management project underway

Cheltenham:

- Moving out of modules and moving into new building this summer

Announcements: A new Superintendent has been hired and will start July 1. She has expressed her support for green efforts, but does not have much experience in this area. If we present her with an prioritized action plan, she will consider our efforts seriously.

Other Notes:

CHELTENHAM TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
June -2013

Committee: School Liaison

Liaison to the Council: Lorna Rosenberg

Date of last meeting: April 4

Date of next meeting:

Questions for the board/larger group:

Action Items Completed:

Action Items In-progress/Pending:

- Green School Policy is being worked on and considered by the Policy Committee of the School Board.
- A Zero Waste Lunch Day is being planned for the fall with Waste Management.
- Tour of Arcadia Stormwater projects is planned for June 18 with School Liaison Committee invited.
- Lorna Rosenberg and Julie Haywood, School Board Member, attended the June 7 Delaware Valley Green Building Council "Green Your School " Workshop focused on Energy Management. It was an inspiring program with savings documented from Abington SD and North Penn SD from mechanical upgrades and conservation behavior modification programs. Many useful take aways for Cheltenham

Green School Activities:

Cheltenham High School:

- A meeting will be scheduled with Andrew Kuhn this summer to discuss reactivating green efforts at CHS.

Cedarbrook:

1. Energy Star Portfolio Manager is still being worked on with Paul Speigel Energy Consultant
2. Sustainable Cheltenham Festival June 1. Many vendors and great student displays of projects and work, low community attendance.

Myers:

1. Meeting on June 10 of teachers, Mmi Rubin and Kathy (speech therapist) and Chris Edelstein and Lorna Rosenberg. Long list of opportunities ready Myers to apply for a Green Ribbon Award
 - a. Signage for LEED features as a student project