

The regular meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) was held tonight. Members present were Dottie Baumgarten, Barbara Duffy, Jonathan Essoka and Lorna Rosenberg. Ex-officio member present was Beth Yount. Guests present were Sidney Kahn and Ann Rappoport. 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 7:30 p.m.

2. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes – Mr. Kahn suggested a change to the meeting minutes on page 4 under New Business: Item D to add “Southeastern” before “Pennsylvania.” Ms. Duffy requested a correction on Mr. Hyslop’s behalf on page 2 under the Water & Ecology Committee Report to change “he” to “she” in the statement regarding the Dollfus property. Ms. Baumgarten made a motion to accept the July 15, 2013 meeting minutes as amended; seconded by Ms. Rosenberg. The motion was unanimously approved.

3. Committee Reports:

A. Communications Committee – Ms. Baumgarten was present and stated that the committee did not meet this month; however, Mr. Carey did forward his report by email. (See attached.) Ms. Rosenberg stated that she reviewed the draft Sustainable Cheltenham website. Both Ms. Rosenberg and Ms. Gibson noted that the site needs to be updated to reflect the adoption of the Cheltenham Sustainability Plan and consequential reorganization of the EAC.

B. Water and Ecology Committee - The committee met on May 28, 2013, and will meet again in September (see attached report). Ms. Duffy also reported that committee members met with PHS and Township Staff to discuss tree placement in Lynnewood Gardens and John Russell Park that was part of the Tree City USA/TD Bank Tree Grant. Ms. Duffy sent a list of native species to Mr. Panzak, Chair of the Shade Tree Advisory Commission. Ms. Duffy also reported that Tookany/Tacony- Frankford Watershed Partnership (TTF) wants the EAC involved in their

showcase tours for best management practices. The first tour will target the Philadelphia area in the fall and the second will target the Montgomery County area in the spring. Ms. Rosenberg asked about the recent Tookany Creek Flood Risk Management Feasibility Study presentation. Ms. Gibson explained that the Army Corps of Engineers presented the alternatives that were considered and their recommendations based upon their criteria. A draft of the study is expected to be completed by the end of this year and a final plan adopted in June 2014 or thereabout.

Mr. Kahn inquired if Abington EAC would have a tree sale this year. Ms. Baumgarten said that she would ask Ms. Stevens of the Abington EAC.

C. Energy and Emissions Committee – Mr. McHugh was not present but sent a brief update on the committee's action items via email. (See attached.) Ms. Rosenberg inquired about Mr. Mettler's presentation on the Intersection and Bike/Pedestrian Safety Enhancement Proposal at the last Public Affairs Committee (PAC) meeting. Ms. Gibson noted that the PAC referred the matter to Township Staff for review. Ms. Rosenberg also asked about the status of the Fossil Fuel Divestment Resolution. Ms. Gibson stated that the Public Works Committee referred this matter to the Township's Pension Board for its review.

D. School Board Liaison Committee – Ms. Rosenberg reviewed her report. She looks forward to meeting with Dr. Natalie Thomas, the new School Superintendent, to discuss a District policy about green practices. Ms. Rosenberg mentioned that the principal at Meyers Elementary School is enthusiastic about striving to have Meyers become a green ribbon school and added that they have an energy efficiency education dashboard. Additionally, Cheltenham Elementary School will have a ribbon cutting ceremony on August 27, 2013, and EAC members are welcome to attend. Finally, a brief discussion of Meyers Elementary School and Cedarbrook Middle School's current building problems took place.

4. Old Business:

A. Cheltenham in Bloom - Ms. Essoka provided some background information on the initiative and stated that the Old York Road Community Group of Synagogues (OYRCGS) has agreed to work with the Township EDTF and EAC to implement some of the recommendations from the 2011 America in Bloom evaluation. Several meetings of an energetic group made up of businesses, friends groups and master gardeners have taken place during the summer. The challenge is deciding on specific projects among the members' varied interests. The current focus is on Fire Stations, the Elkins Park Train Station, gateways and local park improvements. The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHS) offered to assist with information on dedicated sustainable funding from outside sources and with additional gardening contacts. Discussion ensued. Suggestions offered included fund-raising via "Kickstarter," a crowd funding website; soliciting student volunteers for the hands-on projects from Arcadia University, Salus University and Penn State at Abington Campus; and dovetailing with Classic Towns and bike/pedestrian safety initiatives. The next meeting of the OYRCGS is scheduled for September 16, 2013 at 7:00 P.M. at Keneseth Israel.

Ms. Rosenberg recommended that America in Bloom updates be incorporated into the Water and Ecology Committee report in the future.

B. Sustainable Cheltenham Festival - Ms. Rosenberg noted that she has met with the Friends of High School Park and recently spoke to Ms. Blackwood. The Arts in the Park Committee will meet in October and hopefully the EAC will hear by then if the festival can be combined with Arts in the Park next June.

C. Discussion of Municipal Action Plan (MAP) Implementation – Ms. Rosenberg spoke with Mr. Havar regarding the implementation of the MAP goals. Mr. Havar is meeting with Department heads as part of the 2014 budget review process and is asking them to consider what MAP goals they anticipate working towards first.

D. Home Tours of Energy Efficiency Installations - Mr. Kahn stated that he gave Mr. Ahrens and Mr. Carey a tour of his home. Mr. Carey is drafting an article for the EAC Newsletter. Mr. Kahn provided helpful information, including a link to a video of his home and an article in the Philadelphia AIA quarterly magazine, *Contexts*. An early November date for a home tour worked for Mr. Kahn. Members brainstormed on other possible features for inclusion in the tour of residential and non-residential properties for such items as solar panels, native plants, solar hot water, solar pool heaters, low water-use plantings, pervious driveways, no mow zones, rain barrels and geo-thermal installations; raising chickens and bee keeping; recycling, composting, LED lighting and water conservation.

5. New Business:

A. Harvest Festival - The EAC would like to staff a table at the event. Ms. Duffy would like to ensure proper collection of recyclables from Harvest Festival attendees. She suggested arranging for student volunteers to monitor refuse and recycling containers to ensure proper separation.

B. Student Participation on EAC – Ms. Rosenberg suggested student participation at the monthly EAC meetings in three month periods. Ms. Rosenberg will contact Mr. Kuhn at Cheltenham High School.

6. Announcements:

Ms. Rosenberg was honored to be selected for an interview by a student for her role in Sustainable Cheltenham, along with another advocate representing Sustainable Cherry Hill, for WHY? and its web-based blog.

7. Adjournment – Ms. Baumgarten made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Ms. Duffy. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.



Bryan T. Havir
Township Manager

Submitted by:
Kathryn McDevitt

CHELTENHAM TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
July 2013

Committee: School Liaison Committee

Liaison to the Council: Lorna Rosenberg

Date of last meeting: August 12, 2013

Date of next meeting: TBD

No Questions for the board/larger group

Action Items Completed:

1. Meeting scheduled with Superintendent Natalie Thomas
2. Write up on status of Sustainable Cheltenham Schools for Dr. Thomas (see attached)
3. August 12 meeting held to discuss next steps at Myers and other schools
4. Energy bills for each school are going monthly to Chris Edelstein – Paul Speigel (energy auditor from Cheltenham Township) has received these bills, next step?

Action Items In-progress/Pending:

- a. Meeting scheduled with Dr. Thomas on August 27 to discuss Sustainability in Cheltenham Schools – Lorna Rosenberg representing the committee
- b. Planning work continuing with Myers for Walking School Bus, Zero Waste Lunch, Anti- Idling
2. Will schedule another committee meeting by end of August
3. Outreach to Cheltenham HS and Cheltenham Elementary School
4. Lorna Rosenberg will serve on the newly formed Environmental Health and Safety Committee of the School District
5. Cedarbrook is closed due to mold remediation will re-open after remediation in Sept
6. School Environmental Policy and Administrative Regulations for green operations in progress with the School Board
7. Myers has a waterproofing system being installed – due to open on time
8. Cheltenham LEED School opening on August 27 @ 6:30pm

CHELTENHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL- August 19, 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:

Action Items Completed:

- Saturday, July 20th – 18 volunteers cutback invasive plants at Parkview Park in prep for Fall spraying.
- Monday, July 22nd -Attended TD Green Streets Tree Planting Project planning meeting. We discussed planting plan for the John Russell Park with township staff and PHS. EAC members emphasized need to plant native trees. Agreed to work with STAC to come up with list of native tree species. Also the need to engage neighboring business owners in planting and after care.
- Thursday, July 25th at Curtis Hall-- Tree Tenders Reunion hosted by EAC & PHS.

Action Items In-progress/Pending:

- Continuing to coordinate with Public Works- Park Maintenance Superintendent to work on invasive species controls in the parks as well as mapping out more "no mow" zone. Tentative meeting in September.
- Continuing to follow flooding projects (DEP & Army Corps). Several members attended the ACOE Update meeting at Glenside Hall on July 31st.
- 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.
- Set date for Fall riparian planting at Parkview Park – Saturday October 26th
- 2014 Sustainable Cheltenham Festival- looking into possibly collaborating with HS Park event.—no update on this.
- Continuing with "Turn a New Leaf" campaign at upcoming township events.
- Following TTF Partnership including their Trash Task Force
- Native Plant ordinance (still pending)
- Participation in Curtis Arboretum Master Plan development.

Announcements:

TTF is excited to announce they will be conducting free tours to showcase projects that demonstrate Best Management Practices (BMP) in our watershed in fall 2013 and spring 2014—hope to have specific dates in next report.

McDevitt, Kathryn

Subject: FW: REMINDER : Committee Reports for August EAC meeting

From: tom.mchugh@monitordata.com [mailto:tom.mchugh@monitordata.com]

Sent: Monday, August 19, 2013 2:11 PM

To: Lorna Rosenberg; Barb; David McVeigh-Schultz; Martin Carey; Dottie Baumgarten; McDevitt, Kathryn; Gibson, Nancy

Subject: RE: REMINDER : Committee Reports for August EAC meeting

To all,

No report tonight from the Energy and Emissions (Energy, Mobility and Waste Reduction) Subcommittee for August. However, even though we just went through the middle of the summer, great initiatives regarding safe pedestrian and biker mobility, fossil fuel divestment, and a future open house and tour of Mr. Kuhn's home are all progressing. Special thanks to those that have attended Township meetings in support of our work.

Thomas K. McHugh, Chair
Energy and Emissions Subcommittee

----- Original Message -----

Subject: REMINDER : Committee Reports for August EAC meeting

From: Lorna Rosenberg <isrosenberg28@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, August 15, 2013 2:24 pm

To: Barb <beduffy@comcast.net>, David McVeigh-Schultz <david.mcveigh.schultz@gmail.com>, Martin Carey <martin@sustainablecheltenham.org>, Tom McHugh <tom.mchugh@monitordata.com>, Dottie Baumgarten <dottiebaumgarten@gmail.com>, "McDevitt, Kathryn" <kmcdevitt@cheltenham-township.org>, "Gibson, Nancy" <NGibson@cheltenham-township.org>

Hi all, hope you are enjoying this glorious weather! Just a heads up to get your report to Kathy by COB tomorrow August 16, many thanks, see you Monday night! Lorna

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Lorna Rosenberg
215-779-1953

8/27/2013

McDevitt, Kathryn

Subject: FW: REMINDER : Committee Reports for August EAC meeting

From: Martin Carey [mailto:martin@sustainablecheltenham.org]

Sent: Monday, August 19, 2013 2:48 PM

To: Lorna Rosenberg

Cc: Barb; David McVeigh-Schultz; Tom McHugh; Dottie Baumgarten; McDevitt, Kathryn; Gibson, Nancy

Subject: Re: REMINDER : Committee Reports for August EAC meeting

Hi Everyone,

Unfortunately I'm not going to be able to attend tonight's EAC meeting. I'm working on the August Newsletter and also the Special Edition this month focused on LEED building practices and leveraging Sidney Kahn's property as a local example. Communications Committee did not meet this month, due to vacations ect. The website is still our top priority right now and we need to make some headway on that project. Also, the adoption of Social Media outlets is aligned with that project.

Kind Regards,

Martin D. Carey
Cheltenham Township EAC
Communications Committee Chair

267-825-2929

martin@sustainablecheltenham.org

8/27/2013