

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

Voting members present were: Daryl Carrington, Barbara Duffy, Bill Mettler, Miriam Moss, Lorna Rosenberg and David Schultz. Also present was Dorothy Baumgarten, Friends of Grove Park, Khiet Long, PEC Program Coordinator and Andrew Rachlin, Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning & Economic Development, City of Philadelphia. Staff present was: Bryan T. Havir, Assistant Township Manager.

1. **Call to Order** – Ms. Duffy, Chair called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.
2. **Acceptance of Meeting Minutes** – Ms. Duffy asked for a motion to approve the December 20, 2010 meeting minutes. Mr. Mettler made a motion to approve the December 20th meeting minutes as submitted; seconded by Ms. Rosenberg. The motion was unanimously accepted.
3. **Committee Reports** -

A. Energy Committee –Mr. Mettler reported that Transition Cheltenham member, Meenal Raval, has identified the two best 100% green energy providers as: Energy Co-op Green Energy at .0978/kWH (87% hydro, 10% wind and 3% solar) and Blue Star “Pure Wind” at .0935/kWH (100% wind). Mr. Mettler also reviewed Transition Town Initiating Teams’ schedule of five Awareness Raising Sustainable Community Events in 2011:

January 11, 2011 at Glenside Library 7:00 - 8:45 PM
January 25, 2011 at La Mott Community Center 7:00 – 8:45 PM
February 2, 2010 at Elkins Park Library 7:00 – 8:45 PM
February 9, 2010 at Arcadia University Rose Room, The Castle 4:00 – 6:00 PM
February 15, 2011 at Rowland Community Center 7:00 – 8:45 PM

Transition Cheltenham’s Pot Luck Banquet will be held at Cheltenham High School Cafeteria on Sunday, March 13, 2011 from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. (see attached report).

B. Watershed Committee – Ms. Duffy reported on the following:

- On January 9, 2011 she met with Karen Shaffran, science teacher at Cedarbrook Middle School, to begin planning for the **2011 Cheltenham Community Earth Day Festival**. The festival is set for Saturday, May 7th from noon to 3pm at Cedarbrook Middle School. The focus of the festival will be “**Conserving Resources**”. Cedarbrook Middle School students will be developing projects to teach participants about conservation of water, electricity, trees, etc.
- We will also start contacting community groups to see who would like to host an Earth Day hands-on project anywhere in the township on the weekend of April 30th. Anyone interested in participating in the festival planning or would like to host a project, should contact Barb Duffy—(beduffy@comcast.net) or 215-885-1506.
- **Riparian Corridor Conservation District Ordinance Draft review**- There was no joint meeting this month scheduled with the Ad Hoc Zoning Committee so there is no update at this time.
- **Native Plant Ordinance**- This draft ordinance is completed and still needs to move onto the next step, but is on hold due to the focus on the Riparian Corridor Ordinance.
- Continuing work with the EAC Buildings Committee and TTF Watershed Partnership on **Water Conservation strategies** to promote to the community. Lorna has drafted an “Action Plan for Water Conservation Initiatives” and this is being reviewed in committee.

C. Transportation Committee – Ms. Duffy noted that the committee chair position is open.

Mr. Mettler noted that as part of Transition Cheltenham, a map of Cheltenham has been highlighted with the safest paths for cycling in the Township. At the individual transition town meetings, residents in the various neighborhoods fill in the maps and approximately ¾’s of the Township is connected at this point on the map. Mr. Carrington noted he would be interested in seeing the development of a plan delineating the safe walking routes to SEPTA train stations.

D. Buildings Committee – Ms. Rosenberg noted that strategies were discussed for Water Conservation in terms of residential and non-residential water consumption. Ms. Rosenberg said the committee would like to see focus on conservation efforts with large water users such as the Cheltenham School District, and would ask the Township officials to share this information at an

upcoming Township and School District liaison meeting. Ms. Rosenberg would like to see a commitment from the School Board to consider a cistern storm water catch system in the design for the new construction at Cheltenham Elementary School. And, for the existing schools, consideration of installing green roofs and evaluation of changing out existing plumbing fixtures and replacing them with low-flow and water sense fixtures. Ms. Rosenberg noted the committee would also like to begin a dialogue with Elkins Park Hospital and Arcadia University to ascertain water conservation efforts.

Ms. Rosenberg stated that the Township and the Buildings Committee/Recycling Subcommittee met on December 10 and 13, 2010 regarding single stream recycling. Mr. Schultz will follow-up with a letter to the Township Manager on the committee's recommendations for best management practices for single stream recycling. Ms. Rosenberg also noted that the recycling program in the School District continues to move ahead. The kick off event to heighten awareness planned for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day did not happen. Ms. Rosenberg will be meeting with the School District tomorrow at 8:30 a.m. to discuss the roll-out of the program.

Mr. Schultz reported that he would recommend working with the School District on developing green house gas emissions assessments with measurements for the reductions. He would like to partner with Philadelphia University's sustainability graduate program. Dr. Werkshafter, acting as official advisor, could be a mentor for a graduate student for academic credit. Ms. Rosenberg agreed to contact Dr. Bavi to discuss the matter. Mr. Schultz inquired about the Township's green house emission assessment. Mr. Havar noted that Montgomery County Planning Commission included that analysis in their proposal for the Township sustainability plan. Mr. Schultz suggested broadening the process to include other institutions in the Township.

E. Communication Committee – Ms. Carroll was not present so no report was provided.

However, Mr. Havir noted that the professional services contract was recently authorized for the redesign of the Township website. The EAC was asked for input on content for the environmental page. Ms. Carroll previously requested assistance from the individual committee chairs about the type of content and the various links each committee would like to have on the website. Ms. Rosenberg referred the members to London Grove Township website www.london-grove.pa.us which has a green corner option. Mr. Kheit Long also noted that Radnor Township and Lower Merion Township have interesting websites.

4. Old Business:

A. Sustainable Communities Award – Deadline for application was due January 21, 2011. The EAC recommended no project, so nothing was submitted this year by the Township.

B. Mr. Havir announced that a funding opportunity through the DCNR Bureau of Recreation and Conservation Community Conservation Partnerships Program (C2P2) program is available and the application is due on April 20, 2011. Mr. Hoover, Director of Parks and Recreation, attended a DCNR Workshop on January 14, 2011. It is felt that the theme for this grant round focuses on outdoor recreation and that a Phase II scope of work for the High School Park Meadow Restoration Project might be eligible.

C. Mr. Havir reported on the development of a Sustainability Plan through a consultant contract and formation of a steering committee. The current thinking is to work with DVRPC and the County Planning Commission to develop a plan with the elements submitted to HUD via the Tiger II grant application. It was the consensus to recommend three candidates for participation on the Steering Committee at next month's meeting. Mr. Schultz inquired about Green House Reduction and public involvement. Mr. Havir suggested use of Montgomery

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan as its baseline. Mr. Schultz asked about measurement activities by the Township.

D. Mr. Duffy wished to have it noted that the EAC provides an Annual Report which runs from July to July. It was the consensus of the members to continue providing the annual report on that basis.

5. New Business - Mr. Khiet Long, PEC Coordinator introduced himself and stated that Energy Works had reached out to PEC with what seems to be a fairly interesting product to be shared with first class Townships. Mr. Long introduced Mr. Rachlin of Energy Works which offers comprehensive energy efficiency solutions for home and business owners in the Greater Philadelphia region. (see attached). Energy Works has a fund to incentivize energy efficiency for homeowners and businesses. Beginning with your first phone call, Energy Works assigns a partner to work with the homeowner or business to walk you through the process on whatever energy efficiency project you pursue to take the complexity out of the process. They provide energy assessments and low-interest loans to help you make practical, money-saving changes.

Energy Works is reaching out to local Environmental Advisory Council models to help get the information out on their goal to retrofit 2,500 to 1,000,000 square feet of community property in the next two years. The EAC recommended Energy Works attend their community events such as Arts in the Park, Earth Day Festival and Harvest Festival. Ms. Moss also suggested the Audubon Society, Sierra Club and Food Co-ops. Ms. Rosenberg suggested train-the-trainer sessions at the EAC Conference in April. Mr. Long spoke of convening first class Township EAC's to come to hear about Energy Works. Participation by Cheltenham's EAC was discussed and what role it would play, including hosting a presentation by Energy Works. The possibility of organizing such an event was referred to the Buildings Committee.

6. Other Business - Ms. Baumgarten reported that she was conducting a workshop on “Why Does It Matter to Make Good Sustainable Choices”, part of a series to be presented on January 29, 2011 at Primex, in collaboration with the Farmers Market and Downtown Glenside Merchants Association.

Additionally, Ms. Baumgarten reported on an effort to get kids into the parks and involve high school students. She noted that Mr. Hoover, Director of Park and Recreation was helping her with environmental education programs in the parks and so far classes will be held at High School Park, and classes at Rowland Community Center and La Mott Community Center after school in April and four classes at Grove Park.

Mr. Schultz distributed a survey and evaluation sheet from PEC on EAC organization and internal functions, such as membership involvement and recruitment, committee organization, coordination and guidance, formation of committee agendas, goals and objectives, etc. for the year. The EAC agreed to informally meet in February to discuss the above. Ms. Moss agreed to host the meeting.

7. Adjournment – Mr. Mettler made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Ms. Rosenberg. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.



David G. Kravnik,
Township Manager

Submitted by:
Kathryn McDevitt

1/24/11 Energy Report EAC—Spreading Information about the Best New Energy Providers

Share this good news and TC invitation with your email lists and your neighbors!

Meenal Raval, Transition Cheltenham team member and Green House Detective, has discovered the two BEST 100% Green Energy providers who beat PECO:

PECO's rate-to-beat (coal and nuclear): 9.92 cents per kWh

Energy Co-op 100% Green Energy: 9.78 cents per kWh [100% Green = 87% hydro + 10% wind + 3 % solar] (\$15 membership fee)
Blue Star "Pure Wind" 9.35 cents per kWh [100% wind]

Reasons to leave PECO: dirty energy at higher rates--spend more money to be part of the problem

Reasons to choose Energy Co-op: locally based, member owned, all-PA generated clean energy AND cheaper than PECO's dirty energy

Reasons to choose Blue Star: 100% wind--encouraging more wind turbines to be built, cheapest all-green energy!

Choose one of these two providers and help save the world for less!

I'm choosing Energy Co-op to help empower our region's green energy provider.

For Meenal's analysis--go to her Green House Detective Blog:

<http://greenhousedetective.blogspot.com/2011/01/renewable-energy-actually-cheaper-than.html>

Respectfully,

Transition Cheltenham Initiating Team

NEXT: Join us for a Salon and a Launch Party!!!!

You're Invited to a Sustainability Salon
What is Transition Cheltenham?

Discover How YOU can Help Create a Supportive, Resourceful, Resilient & Joyous Community
prepared for Energy & Food Challenges in 2011 & Beyond

Come Join Us in YOUR Neighborhood

Glenside Library Jan. 11 Tues. 7 - 8:45 PM ("full house"!)
La Mott Community Room Jan. 25 Tues. 7 - 8:45 PM

Elkins Park Library Feb. 2 Wed. 7 - 8:45 PM

Arcadia U. in "The Castle" Feb. 9 Wed. 4 - 6 PM

Rowland Community Room Feb 15 Tues. 7 - 8:45 PM

THEN--

Help Us Launch Transition Cheltenham
Pot Luck Banquet, Music, Fun & Family

March 13, Sunday 4 - 8 PM
Cheltenham High School cafeteria

Info: Bill, wmmettler3@aol.com or
Judith, judithgratz@gmail.com or
www.transitioncheltenham.org



EnergyWorks offers comprehensive energy efficiency solutions for home and business owners in the Greater Philadelphia region. The program brings together all available rebates, tax credits and very low-interest loans to make energy saving projects affordable. But EnergyWorks is more than just a financing program; we are a trusted ally in our customers' improvement projects, offering professional energy analysis and design services – at little or no cost – to help them through each step of the process

EnergyWorks is a program of the Metropolitan Caucus, a coalition of senior elected officials from Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, and Philadelphia Counties. It is supported by a grant from the US Department of Energy's Better Buildings Program. EnergyWorks relies on the support and expertise of a number of important operating partners, including the Keystone HELP Program and AFC First Financial, the Energy Coordinating Agency, The Reinvestment Fund, and the Philadelphia Industrial Development Corporation.

What EnergyWorks means for ...

Homeowners: With expert advice just a phone call away, low-interest loans from 0.99% at your fingertips, and a free quality assurance program to help make sure your job is done right, the power is in your hands to make critical energy-saving changes today. EnergyWorks will help you make energy upgrades that provide maximum impact immediately and down the road—improvements that will save you money, make your home more comfortable, eliminate safety hazards, and help the environment. We make it easy.

Business Owners: Energy efficiency is vital to your brand and your bottom line. EnergyWorks helps businesses economize energy use, allowing you to bring more of your resources to what you do best while sending a powerful message to your customers that your company is both concerned and cutting edge. We provide free energy assessments and low-interest loans from 3.5% to help you make practical, money-saving changes. In many cases, these energy-saving improvements are also investments that support your business in other ways, like major equipment upgrades, tenant fit-outs, or renovations or expansions of existing space to fit new needs. Our financing options include construction loans, term loans, and lease financing.

www.EnergyWorksNow.com