

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

Voting members present were: Mary Beth Carroll, Barbara Duffy, Bill Mettler, Miriam Moss, and Lorna Rosenberg. Ex-officio member present was: Jonathan Essoka. Also present was Dorothy Baumgarten and Nancy Minich. 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 October 18, 2010 and November 15, 2010 meeting minutes. Ms. Rosenberg made a motion to approve both the October 18th and November 15th meeting minutes as submitted; seconded by Mr. Mettler. The motion was unanimously accepted.

3. ***Committee Reports -***

A. ***Energy Committee*** –Mr. Mettler provided an update on Transition Town Initiating Teams' schedule of five Awareness Raising Sustainable Community Events in 2011:

January 11, 2011 at Glenside Library
January 25, 2011 at La Mott Community Center
February 2, 2010 at Elkins Park Library
February 9, 2010 at Arcadia University Rose Room, The Castle
February 15, 2011 at Rowland Community Center

These five events will culminate in a major session called, The Great Unleashing of Transition Cheltenham to be held at Cheltenham High School Cafeteria on Sunday, March 13, 2011 from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. (see attached).

Ms. Duffy reported that Mr. Bale was unable to attend tonight but did e-mail his report to the EAC on EarthAid, a behavioral modification approach to home energy. Mr. Bale has decided that due to lack of interest by residents and businesses and lack of volunteer support, he will not continue promoting this home energy model (see attached).

B. Watershed Committee – Ms. Duffy e-mailed her report with updates on 2011 Cheltenham Community Earth Day Festival; Riparian Corridor Conservation District Ordinance draft review; Native Plant Ordinance draft review and Water Conservation strategies. Ms. Duffy also noted that the recent e-waste event at Cedarbrook School collected approximately 8,000 pounds of e-waste material (see attached).

C. Transportation Committee – No report was available. However, Ms. Duffy asked for an update on Arcadia University's connector trail to the Cresheim Trail. Mr. Havir responded that a matching grant application (\$10,000) was filed through PECO's Green Region Open Space Program by Cheltenham Township in partnership with Arcadia University for the Arcadia University Spur Trail, which supports Arcadia's plan to build a trail as well as the overall goals noted in the Cresheim Trail Feasibility Study. There was a brief discussion regarding the width of the trail as well as public access to the spur trail.

D. Buildings Committee – Ms. Rosenberg e-mailed her report. (see attached). Ms. Rosenberg offered an update from two meetings held with the Township and the Buildings Committee/Recycling Sub-committee on December 10 and 13, 2010 regarding recycling. (see attached). Ms. Rosenberg noted that Mr. Schultz and she met with the Township Manager along with the Public Works Superintendent and Refuse and Recycling Superintendent who explained the various stages of the recycling process in the Township so that the EAC had a thorough understanding of the current practices and future plans. At the conclusion of a second meeting, that included the Assistant Township Manager and Ms. Duffy, Ms. Rosenberg stated that she and the committee felt that Cheltenham Township is in good shape with its plans to proceed with single stream recycling collection later this year. The EAC will be preparing recommendations for Best Management Practices that it will pass onto the Township for implementation.

Ms. Rosenberg also noted that the recycling program in the School District is moving ahead.

Ms. Rosenberg met with School Superintendent, Ms. Davis, in November. A kick off event to heighten awareness is being planned for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Ms. Rosenberg reported that Glenside Elementary School is almost completed (60-70%). The School district is now moving forward with plans to rebuild the Cheltenham Elementary School in the fall of 2011. Ms. Rosenberg believes that an architect has been engaged for this project by the School District and that both buildings will be LEED certified. Ms. Rosenberg noted that an Inflow and Infiltration system was engineered to slow down runoff at the Glenside Elementary School. Ms. Rosenberg will take Mr. Essoka to see this system.

The AP Environmental class at Cheltenham High School (CHS) is working on designing a green roof above their classroom. Ms. Rosenberg will assist CHS the district by helping to look for grant funding.

E. Communication Committee – Ms. Carroll noted that the Township website is being redesigned and the EAC has been asked for input on content for the environmental page. Ms. Carroll 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. It was agreed that committee chairs would communicate their suggestions to Ms. Carroll. Mr. Havir noted that Tookany/Tacony-Frankford Watershed Partnership (TTFWP) recently redesigned their website which has interactive maps as well as videos. Mr. Havir suggested that Ms. Carroll contact Katie Donnelly at TTFWP for ideas.

4. Old Business:

A. Sustainable Communities Award – Ms. Rosenberg will update the members on this application at the next meeting.

B. In follow-up to last month's discussion regarding inviting a student to participate in the

EAC monthly meetings, a motion was made by Ms. Rosenberg to have one student who is a resident of Cheltenham Township, either from middle school or high school, participate in the EAC monthly meetings, as an ex-officio member, with a designee appointed to serve on an annual rotating basis; seconded by Ms. Moss. The motion was unanimously accepted. Mr. Havir noted that as an ex-officio member each student would need to submit letters of interest and resumes to the Township Manager. It was agreed that this would be a great learning experience.

5. New Business

A. Mr. Havir stated that approximately 700 native plants and shrubs were planted in front of the sanitary sewer bypass pipe as camouflage along Tookany Creek in Tookany Park from Jenkintown Road to Central Avenue on the parkway side. The bypass pipe in Ogontz Field and High School Park was also camouflaged with native plants in certain areas. All plant materials were installed by Public Works personnel in mid-November.

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. A DCNR Workshop is scheduled for January 14, 2011. The EAC discussed projects that may be eligible for funding such as riparian buffer along Wall Park parking area, providing rain gardens and increased parking, combined with porous paving material or High School Park Master Plan, Native Meadow Restoration, Phase II. Ms. Moss inquired about Ogontz Field at Church and Brookside Roads. She said the fenced in area surrounding the bypass pipe is unsightly and perhaps there would be some way to make this area more attractive.

C. Mr. Havir asked the members of EAC if they would assist with explaining the benefits of a Riparian Buffer and identifying the different native plant species in the spring to a property

owner living near Harrison/Waverly Roads. Ms. Duffy agreed to attend a meeting with Mr. Havir and the property owner in the spring to walk the park area in question. Mr. Havir said a maintenance plan should be developed to manage the reoccurrence of invasives in this park.

D. Mr. Havir reported that 25 native trees were recently donated to the Township by Rhoads Nursery in Horsham, PA and planted at multiple sites throughout the Township including five trees at the Township Municipal campus.

E. Pennsylvania Environmental Council 14th Southeast Regional Conference is scheduled for April 9, 2011 at Villanova University. Mr. Havir stated that EAC voting members should submit receipt of registration for reimbursement, if they plan on attending.

6. Other Business – Ms. Moss inquired about having the Township provide a link for information regarding PECO's rate increases and choice of alternative energy providers. Ms. Moss feels that this would be very helpful as there is very little information available. Ms. Rosenberg stated that there if a good link to the Office of Consumer Advocate. Following discussion, it was decided that the EAC could provide a presentation on energy choices. Ms. Rosenberg will research possible presenters, dates, times and locations (Abington Friends School or Curtis Hall) and report made to the EAC.

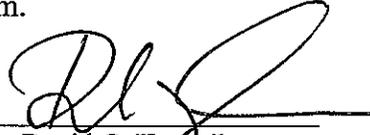
Ms. Moss also suggested that an EAC member should consider attending Abington Township's EAC meetings to share and exchange information. Following discussion, it was decided that Ms. Moss should make outreach to Abington's EAC on a quarterly basis. EAC members also mentioned the Buxmont Consortium of EAC's which typically meets in June in Doylestown.

Ms. Minich noted that project signs for both Coventry Park and Curtis Arboretum have been ordered and will be installed shortly. Mr. Havir stated that TreeVitalize grant funds were used to remove invasive vines growing in the trees on the park side and far side of Coventry Park

December 20, 2010 7:30 p.m.
Township Administration Building

(opposite Mill Run Tributary), as well as a small amount for the riparian buffer area at Curtis Arboretum near the Dog Park.

7. *Adjournment* – Mr. Mettler made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Ms. Rosenberg. The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Kraynik', written over a horizontal line.

David G. Kraynik,
Township Manager

Submitted by:
Kathryn McDevitt

EAC Energy Report 12/21/10

The Transition Town Initiating Team has scheduled five Awareness Raising Events in the Cheltenham Township Libraries/Community Halls plus Arcadia University:

Jan 11	Glenside Library (Glenside, Wyncote)
Jan 25	La Mott Community Center (La Mott, West Wyncote, Melrose Park)
Feb 02	Elkins Park Library (Elkins Park, Melrose Park)
Feb 9	Arcadia University Rose Room, The Castle (Arcadia, Laverock)
Feb 15	Rowland Community Center (East Cheltenham)

At each venue we will present a 1 hour and 45 minute program to the public that has:
A review of the challenges before us with regards to climate change and resources depletion,
The barriers to change
The benefits of responding with a resilient, locally flourishing lean energy community.
Audience interaction included—the audience will be invited to join one of the 10 Working Groups:

- Locally Grown Food
- Energy Conservation & Solar
- Lean Energy Buildings
- Trails & Rails
- Health
- Sustainability Education
- Local Economy
- Celebration & Spirituality
- Local Government
- Art & Artisans

These 5 "Sustainable Community Salons" will lead up to THE GREAT UNLEASHING of Transition Cheltenham.

Sunday 4 – 8 PM March 13 Cheltenham High School Cafeteria capacity: 400

This Giant Pot Luck Banquet and Celebration will mark the beginning of the 10 or so Working Groups creating, through projects, the Energy Descent Action Plan for the township including Arcadia. The goal is to discover how to live comfortably on mostly local goods and services, leaner energy demand while empowering our township's economy and the interconnection of our community.

The benefits will be: enhanced health from cleaner air, water, and soil, organic food, more time for family and friends. Greater job satisfaction and connection within the community, a much lighter carbon footprint and a community contributing to local, regional national and global well-being and peace.

McDevitt, Kathryn

From: Havir, Bryan
Sent: Monday, December 20, 2010 10:03 AM
To: McDevitt, Kathryn
Subject: FW: Earth Aid

Kathy: Please make copies for tonight. Thanks.

Bryan T. Havir, P.P., AICP
 Assistant Township Manager
 Cheltenham Township
 8230 Old York Road
 Elkins Park, Pennsylvania 19027-1589
 215-887-6200, ext. 112
 215-887-1561 fax

bhavir@cheltenham-township.org

www.cheltenhamtownship.org

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From: tombale@comcast.net [mailto:tombale@comcast.net]
Sent: Monday, December 20, 2010 1:06 AM
To: Barb Duffy
Cc: Meenal Raval; tom@eesolutions.net; edlichstein@comcast.net; bhanomalous7@gmail.com; Bill Mettler; Havir, Bryan; Daryl; David Burd; David McVeigh-Schultz; Lorna Rosenberg; Mary Beth Carroll; Miriam Moss
Subject: Earth Aid

Earth Aid Report December, 2010

Despite the statistics reported in the last report I am finding it very hard to convince new households to enroll in Earth Aid. While some people have willingly signed up in the past many others remain suspicious about releasing their utility information and do not enroll. Also, I have have been discouraged by attempts to enroll local businesses to provide rewards. One pharmacist told me he would not enroll because of his concern that the commitment was open ended making it impossible to predict what the demand would be for any reward he might offer. He was not sure the value of the publicity gained would outweigh additional expenses for him.

Finally, there has not been enough volunteer effort behind the program to reach more households and businesses to create the impact that I had originally hoped for. The behavioral concept of Earth Aid combining the competitive instinct in people to do better than their neighbor, the satisfaction of getting a reward for conservation, the easy access to information about ways to reduce household energy, and the moral appeal of decreasing personal output of CO2, reducing global warming all made the program very attractive. However, I have not been able to find a way, except on a very small scale, to put the concept into operation. As a result this will be my last Earth Aid report.

Respectively submitted, Tom Bale

Watershed Committee Report: EAC Meeting December 20, 2010

* We are gearing up for the **2011 Cheltenham Community Earth Day Festival** and planning meetings will begin in January. We will also start contacting community groups to see who would like to host an Earth Day Project. More details in January. If you know anyone who wishes to participate in the festival planning or would like to host a project please contact Barb Duffy—(beduffy@comcast.net) or 215-885-1506.

***Riparian Corridor Conservation District Ordinance Draft review**- There was no meeting this month, so there is no update at this time.

* **Native Plant ordinance**- Same as last month--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.

Havir, Bryan

From: Rosenberg.Lorna@epamail.epa.gov
Sent: Monday, December 20, 2010 4:43 PM
To: beduffy@comcast.net; beduffy@comcast.net; jimgoman101@earthlink.net; wmmettler3@aol.com; Rosenberg.Lorna@epamail.epa.gov; mg.low@comcast.net; weitzhuis@comcast.net; davids@ecasavesenergy.org; lsilverman@sblaw.com; mgoldman13@comcast.net; pwgordon@comcast.net; tom@eesolutions.net; tom.mchugh@monitordata.com; tombale@comcast.net; Havir, Bryan; Kraynik, David; andrewrudin@earthlink.net; flemingr@philau.edu; mossm@arcadia.edu; beduffy@comcast.net; Carrington, Daryl; kshaffran@cheltenham.org; Essoka.Jonathan@epamail.epa.gov
Subject: Building Committee activities for November - December

Township Recycling

- 2 meetings were held with the Township Administrator and Public Works staff regarding the township going forth with single stream recycling. Concern was expressed that single stream recycling may have serious environmental impacts due to crushed glass and shredded paper resulting in an inferior product from the sorting facility that may not have a market and would be landfilled.

We were given information from the public works staff and from other professional sources that the technology now available for sorting waste is sophisticated and is even able to sort small bits for a cleaner recycled stream.

With the new information the EAC supports single stream recycling, with the suggestion that the Public works Department consider some "best management practices", that will be provided by the EAC, in the operation of the compacting truck as not to over crush glass and more information about which markets our recycling company sells to and the value of their product.

Relationship with the School District

- Recycling efforts are moving forward in all of the schools. Looking to MLK day to kick-off an awareness program on school recycling in January. Details are still being worked out.
- Cheltenham Elementary will be demolished and Gilbert Architect will be the designer. They are the firm designing Glenside. The Cheltenham and Glenside project will achieve LEED certification. We hope that the Cheltenham project will include more a stormwater cistern for toilet flushing to support our efforts for water conservation in the township.

Suggestion of a joint program with Abington EAC - "Selecting an energy provider after the rate caps are lifted"

Submitted by Lorna Rosenberg

Lorna Rosenberg, Sustainable Building Advisor
Green Building Program Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1650 Arch Street - 3EA40
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Wk: 215-814-5389
Cell: 215-779-1953
Fax: 215-814-2783
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