October 20, 2014, 7:30 p.m.
Township Administration Building

The meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) was held tonight. Members present were Kurt Ahrens, Yuri Berg, Barbara Duffy, Tom McHugh, Brad Pransky, Linda Foggie and Lorna Rosenberg, Ex-Officio members present were Doryan DeAngel, Natalie Hursky, Bill Mettler and Beth Yount. Township liaison present was Nancy K. Gibson, Public Information Officer. Guests present were Bridgett Chadwick and Chloe Coffman, Penn Environment. See attached attendance sheet.

1. **Call to Order:** Ms. Rosenberg called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

2. **Acceptance of Meeting Minutes:** Ms. Rosenberg made a motion to accept the minutes of September 15, 2014 meeting; seconded by Mr. Berg. The motion was unanimously approved.

3. **Presentation:** Ms. Coffman, a campaign manager for Penn Environment – a state-wide, citizen-based environmental advocacy organization – asked the EAC to consider recommending to the Board of Commissioners the adoption of a Cheltenham Township resolution in support of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) proposed Clean Power Plan, which sets targets for reducing the carbon emissions rate from Pennsylvania's power plants by 32 percent by the year 2030. Ms. Coffman provided a sample resolution but invited the EAC to include local clean-environment achievements. Penn Environment is requesting similar symbolic resolutions from surrounding communities, but they all must be adopted by December 1, 2014, which is the end of the EPA's comment period. Following discussion, Mr. Ahrens made a motion 1) for the Energy and Emissions Sub-Committee to draft a resolution, referencing the Township's Sustainability Plan; 2) for the EAC Chairperson to review and approve a final version of the resolution and 3) to recommend the Board of Commissioners adopt the resolution in November 2014; seconded by Mr. Pransky and unanimously approved. Ms. Rosenberg will present the

resolution (see attached) to the Township in time for its consideration by the Public Works Committee on November 12, 2014.

4. Committee Reports:

A. Communications and Engagement Committee: Mr. Ahrens asked if Committee Chairpersons could email their committee reports earlier so he could incorporate any appropriate information in the E-Newsletter. Suggested topics included Parkview Planting Project on October 25, 2014; Tookany/Tacony-Frankford Watershed Partnership (TTF) Backyard with Benefits Project on November 1-2, 2014; the upcoming sewer rate change and the recent clean water survey. Ms. Yount inquired about the recent proposed state legislation to reduce streambank buffer zones.

Mr. Ahrens asked about membership. Ms. Rosenberg asked if anyone could be invited to work on EAC projects and if subcommittee members need to be officially designated as EAC ex-officio members? [The EAC can work with volunteers who are not on the official ex-officio list. Volunteers do not have to be appointed an ex-officio first.]

B. Water and Ecology Committee: Ms. Duffy submitted her report (see attached). Ms. Duffy noted that volunteers will be needed for the Parkview Park Planting scheduled for October 25, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. In addition, Tookany/Tacony-Frankford Watershed Partnership Inc. (TTF) will need volunteers on November 1 and 2 for their Backyard with Benefits Program. Ms. DeAngel provided several handouts regarding upcoming TTF events.

C. School Liaison Committee: Ms. Rosenberg submitted her report (see attached).

D. Energy and Emissions Committee: Mr. McHugh submitted his report (see attached).

5. Old Business:

A. Status Update on 1900 Ashbourne Road Development - Mr. Pransky stated that there was nothing new to report. He added that work on the Draft Zoning Ordinance is still in progress. Modifications were being discussed for commercial development.

B. Update on Township Social Media Policy – Ms. Gibson reported the Township has received recommended guidelines for use of social media from the Delaware Valley Insurance Trust, the Township's insurance provider. Ms. Gibson had drafted a policy for review by the Township Solicitor. However, the solicitor recommended extensive changes to align with guidelines developed in a negotiated settlement resulting from a lawsuit brought against the Hawaii Police Department regarding its Facebook page. The guidelines must be reviewed by Township Staff. Ms. Gibson is hopeful that the Township Manager will submit a draft policy to the Public Affairs Committee before the end of the year.

C. Harvest Festival - Ms. Rosenberg reported that due to the dreary weather, turnout was low. However, EAC and TTF conducted a clean-water savvy survey, which TTF will tabulate. Ms. Duffy reported that the recycling do's and don'ts display was successful and the giveaways were wonderful. Ms. Duffy was very happy to see the blue recycling bins located next to the regular trash bins and would recommend doing the same at subsequent events. Discussion was held regarding general Township recycling. Re-Community, the company that receives the Township's recycling material, has noted an increase in unacceptable items in all their facilities. Members discussed Re-Communuity's recycling guidelines, which they thought were confusing and failed to include explanations why some items were not recyclable. Ms. Yount will contact Bill Ferrari, Public Works Refuse/Recycling Superintendent, to answer questions and possibly attend a future EAC meeting. Mr. Berg asked how recycling information is disseminated. Ms.

Gibson responded through Township E-Notifications, website, press releases, fall and spring newsletters, calendar and public events. Ms. Foggie suggested asking the School District to include recycling updates in the information sent to parents.

D. Township policy on Citizen Committee input to the Zoning Hearing Board - Ms. Gibson informed the EAC that the protocol for citizens committees that want to testify before the Zoning Hearing Board is to first present that request to the Building and Zoning Committee.

E. Discussion of an Ad Hoc Water Conservation Committee – Ms. Rosenberg tabled this discussion until the next meeting.

6. New Business:

A. Discussion about Complete Streets/Mobility - Ms. Rosenberg noted that the surveys collected at Arts in the Park indicated a strong interest in improving community bikability and walkability. Mr. Mettler reported that the Township applied for a grant to hire a consultant to conduct a feasibility study on walkability and bikability but that the grant was not approved. Mr. Mettler added that volunteers have already conducted a bike/pedestrian safety enhancement audit at key community intersections, which included measuring width of roads and shoulders. The information along with a map was presented to the Board of Commissioners. Finally, Mr. Mettler added that he contacted Christy Staudt, a project manager with Traffic Planning and Design, Inc., to investigate options for conducting some type of audit. He will report any results back to the EAC. Ms. Chadwick suggested the EAC try to adopt a complete streets policy, which would consider all users. Ms. Rosenberg asked Ms. Chadwick to bring a copy of Philadelphia's Complete Streets policy to next month's meeting.

7. Announcements: Ms. DeAngel announced a TTF fund-raiser this Sunday at the Global Dye Works.

8. Adjournment: Mr. Ahrens made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Pransky.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Bryan T. Havir
Township Manager

Submitted by:
Kathy McDevitt

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Environmental Advisory Council

Monday, October 20, 2014 @ 7:30 P.M.

Township Administration Building
8230 Old York Road, Elkins Park, PA 19027

(Please Print Clearly)

Name	E-mail or Other Contact Info, if desired	Member (Y/N)
Chloe Coffman	chloe@pennenvironment.org	N
~~Bill Mettler~~	billmettler3@gmail.com	A
Kurt Ahrens	KFahrens@gmail.com	Y
Doryan De Angel	doryangel@gmail.com	N
Barbara Duffy	beduffy@comcast.net	Y
Yuri Berg	yuri1berg@gmail.com	Y
Lorna Rosenberg	~~Rosenberg~~ LS Rosenberg@gmail.com	Y
Linda Foggie	LINDAFOSSIE@AOL.COM	Y
Natalie Hurksky	nhurtsky@yahoo.com	ex officio
Beth Yount	mayaniboy@msn.com	N
Brad Pransky	BRAD@INTZ.COM	Y
Tom McHugh	tom.mchugh@monitordata.com	

CHELTENHAM TOWNHSIP

RESOLUTION No. __– 14

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY'S PROPOSED CLEAN POWER PLAN FOR PENNSYLVANIA

WHEREAS, Cheltenham Township was the first community in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, to adopt a Sustainability Plan, an ambitious multi-year plan designed to guide the community to become more environmentally friendly and resilient. The plan established ten goals with specific objectives that are applicable to all organizations, institutions and individuals in the community but features a Municipal Action Plan that outlines steps the municipality can take to function more sustainably and serve a model and leader for others; and

WHEREAS, The Cheltenham Township Board of Commissioner Commissioners, in coordination with the Cheltenham Township Environmental Advisory Council and other Township committees and citizens, have adopted policies and taken many steps to preserve, conserve and sustain the environment and quality of life for future generations and have undertaken specific programs, including but not limited to, energy conservation, transportation improvements, streambank restoration, flood mitigation and tree planting.

WHEREAS, the National Climate Assessment has identified extreme precipitation, more extensive flooding, declining air quality, extremely hot days, and more as observed impacts of climate change in Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, Cheltenham Township has experienced extreme weather conditions, like major flooding events throughout Montgomery County, attributable to impacts from global warming and increased levels of smog, which trigger asthma and respiratory problems;

WHEREAS, numerous authoritative scientific bodies, including the US Global Change Research Program, American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change have recognized that carbon pollution created by the burning of fossil fuels is contributing to global warming; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's power plants are its largest source of carbon pollution, contributing to 47% of its total; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *Massachusetts v. EPA* (2007) that greenhouse gases are "air pollutants" as defined by the Clean Air Act and the Environmental Protection Agency has the authority to regulate them; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency's proposed Clean Power Plan sets a target of reducing the carbon emissions rate from Pennsylvania's power plants for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 32 percent by 2030; and

WHEREAS, the Clean Power Plan gives Pennsylvania the opportunity to design its own plan to meet its carbon reduction targets by investing in renewable energy and energy efficiency; and

WHEREAS, energy efficiency and renewable energy like wind and solar are proven, cost-effective alternatives to burning fossil fuels; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP OF CHELTENHAM, that the Township of Cheltenham respectfully requests that the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection work with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency officials to develop a plan to reduce carbon pollution from Pennsylvania's power plans to exceed its Clean Power Plan target, and that maximizes the potential for renewable energy and energy efficiency.

ADOPTED this **19th** day of **November, 2014.**

CHELTENHAM TOWNSHIP

By: _____
Harvey Portner, President

Attest: _____
Bryan T. Havir, Township Manager
and Secretary

McDevitt, Kathryn

From: Kurt Ahrens [kfahrens@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, October 17, 2014 3:01 PM
To: ls Rosenberg-EACchair
Cc: Barb; Barbara Duffy; Becky Coccia Messa; Bill England; Bill Mettler; Brad P; Christopher Edelstein; Daryl Carrington; David McVeigh-Schultz; Diane Diffenderfer; Doryan De Angel; Dottie Baumgarten; Earl Stamm; Hannah Mazzaccaro; Josey Stamm; Julie Slavet; Justin Mariconi, Esq; Karen Shaffran; McDevitt, Kathryn; Kevin Aires; Linda A. Foggie; Lisa Donahue; Gibson, Nancy; Natalie Hursky; Olga McHugh; Peter Blau; Rob Fleming; Robert Hyslop; Robin Eisman; Sidney; Susan Levey; Tom Macchi; Tom McHugh; Yuri Berg
Subject: Re: REMINDER - Committee Chairs - please submit your monthly report by COB Friday October 17 - reply all thanks!

CHELTENHAM TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL-
Committee: Communications

Liaison to the Council: Kurt Ahrens

Date of last meeting: N/A

Date of next meeting: TBD

Questions for the board/larger group:

How should we promote community engagement through our communications?
Can we now provide our advice directly to Township boards, committees, and groups?
Can we now exercise free speech and use our twitter account to send announcements and useful information, in accordance with the policy that we approved earlier this year? If not, why not?

Action Items Completed: September Newsletter (45% open rate, compared to industry average of 24%)

Action Items In-progress/Pending: October Newsletter

Announcements:

On Wed, Oct 15, 2014 at 11:56 PM, Lorna Rosenberg <lsrosenberg28@gmail.com> wrote:
Next EAC meeting Oct 20th @ Township Building

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Lorna Rosenberg
215-779-1953

CHELTENHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL- October 20, 2014

Committee: Water & Ecology
Liaison to the Council: Barbara Duffy
Date of last meeting: July 7, 2014
Date of next meeting: TBA

Questions for the board/larger group:

Action Items Completed:

- Attended TTF's Abington Friend's School Riparian Buffer Planting (10/18/14).
- Attended 2014 Harvest Festival – low community turn-out due to weather but got a fair # of community responses to MS-4 Surveys & very good community response to recycling "Do's & Don't" campaign giveaways. Happy to see blue recycling bins next to each trash box!

Action Items In-progress/Pending:

- ***Tree Vitalize Planting Project*** – **Parkview Park Planting October 25th from 9am to 3pm**. Volunteers will be needed on planting day.

- ***TTF Partnership***- TTF needs help recruiting planting volunteers on the weekend of **November 1st & 2nd**. Several Cheltenham homeowners have requested and have been selected to have riparian buffers planted in their backyards. A consultant has already met with each resident and planting plans are being developed. (more details to come)

- ***TTF Trash Task Force*** – looking at other nationwide municipalities and how they have decreased trash in the stormwater systems and creeks. Cheltenham Township has purchased a new street cleaning truck to help in this effort to decrease trash in the streams from residential & municipal building areas.

- ***Curtis Arboretum Master Plan-*** Meeting planned **November 17th**. Survey of Curtis property is completed and will be discussed at upcoming steering committee meeting.

- ***Flooding Projects (DEP & Army Corps)*** – no update.

- ***Invasive Controls with Public Works & Parks Superintendent*** - Dave continues to work with Parks Superintendent on targeted mowing and spraying of past planted Riparian areas to decrease invasive take over.

- ***America in Bloom***- Jonathon Essoka reports that the group completed final edits to the Elkins Park design plan to plant foliage around the train station. They are planning a later meeting to assign duties to planning groups but not scheduled yet. Median Island at the Elkins Park Town Centre, near the train station and shopping/dining area was redesigned to include planted median and street painted for better traffic directions.

- ***Native Plant Ordinance*** (still pending)

- ***"Herbicide Application Recommendations" Review-*** meeting to review the policy as per the "Monitoring" recommendations will be set up after the fall planting (10/25) to assess how successful the spraying schedule was.

Announcements:

HS Park Events: http://highschoolpark.org

- **Workday Weekend**- November 1st from 10 to Noon (Will start up again in spring of 2015) Check website for specific dates. Help steward this great park!

TTF Watershed Partnership Events: http://ttfwatershed.org/events/

TTF be holding an Open House fundraiser during Philadelphia's Open Studios at **Globe Dye Works** on **Sunday, October 26 from 2 to 4 pm**. They are seeking sponsors for this event at $500 per sponsorship, which will include the sponsor's logo on all materials and recognition at the event. They are expecting 150 attendees. Requesting a donation of $25

McDevitt, Kathryn

From: Lorna Rosenberg [lsrosenberg28@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, October 19, 2014 10:36 PM
To: McDevitt, Kathryn; Gibson, Nancy; Barb; k fahrens; Tom McHugh; Brad P; Earl Stamm
Subject: Fwd: Minutes from cheltenham Eac schools committee October 13@ Creekside

Not my usual format, but here are my notes for the schools committee.

Lorna S Rosenberg
Cell-215 779 1953

Begin forwarded message:

From: Lorna Rosenberg <lsrosenberg28@gmail.com>
Date: October 16, 2014 at 6:54:01 AM EDT
To: "Christopher D. Edelstein" <cedelstein@magrann.com>, Melissa Wombwell-Twersky <mwtwersky@gmail.com>, Blum Amy <ablum99@comcast.net>, Lisa Donohue <donahue.lisam@gmail.com>, Mimi RUBIN <mrubin@cheltenham.org>, Bill England <bill.england62@gmail.com>, Sherry Hazlewood <zelwood@comcast.net>, SHAFFRAN Karen <kshaffran@cheltenham.org>, Nissim Lebovits <nissim.lebovits1@gmail.com>, Matthew BRAMUCCI <mbramucci@cheltenham.org>, Marilyn GOLDEN <mgolden@cheltenham.org>, BAVI Ray <rbavi@cheltenham.org>, Dawn WOODS <dwoods@cheltenham.org>
Subject: Minutes from cheltenham Eac schools committee October 13@ Creekside

Next meeting of the schools committee will be Monday November 3 @ Creekside .

1. We have a request into the School Board to present a proposal on the December 2 meeting of the facilities meeting called "preparing Cheltenham SD for Green Ribbon 2016".
The approval is still pending, but likely.

2. Effective recycling is still the issue most schools want to focus on.

3. IDEAS for recycling :
a. Have Myers Green Ambassadors visit Wyncote to share their recycling video and present during National Recycling week, November 10-16
http://recyclingweek.planetark.org/
b. Chs is working on a recycling plan to build on the waste audit done in April. They have been in contact with the Philadelphia Eagles "go green" to help with a student campaign kickoff. They
c. Cheltenham and Wyncote and Myers have been encouraged to conduct a waste audit using Eco schools http://www.eco-schools.org/. Sherry Hazelwood can help.
d. All schools interested in recycling should form a green team, with maintenance, teachers, students, parents etc
e. Inventory the number of recycling cans and the number needed for cheltenham facilities to get.

4. Connecting Myers with art teacher Susan Puchowitz to work with students on signage for

the green features of Myers designed by students.

5. The Eac is available for technical input to support the schools.

Please call w/ questions,!

Lorna S Rosenberg
Cell-215 779 1953

CHELTENHAM TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL-

Committee:
Liaison to the Council: Tom McHugh
Date of last meeting:
Date of next meeting: TBA

Questions for the board/larger group:

Action Items Completed:
Action Items In-progress/Pending:

Announcements:

In regard to tonight's speaker on the topic of Climate Change, the alarming news of the record global warmth during September 2014 is covered well by the following two links:

NOAA National Climatic Data Center report for September 2014:

http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/sotc/global/2014/9

Climate Central article on NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GISS) report for September 2014:

http://www.climatecentral.org/news/september-2014-warmest-on-record-18172

Note: It appears likely that 2014 will have the highest global average temperature for land and sea combined since the beginning of record keeping in the year 1880. Every month since February 1984 has been warmer globally than the respective monthly record for the 20th century. We have now had 355 consecutive months (29 years and 7 months) warmer globally than the 20th century average. ...And we are at El Nino neutral conditions!