

The regular meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) was held tonight. Voting members present were: Mary Beth Carroll, Barbara Duffy, Miriam Moss, and Lorna Rosenberg. Ex-officio member present was: Tom Bale. Also present was Bob De Maria, Jim Innes and Tom McHugh. Staff present was: Bryan T. Havar, Assistant Township Manager.

1. ***Call to Order*** – Ms. Duffy called the meeting to order at 7:38 p.m.
2. ***Acceptance of Meeting Minutes*** – Ms. Duffy made a motion to accept the July 19, 2010 meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Rosenberg with the following correction: Under Old Business, Section C, page 5, paragraph 2 should read “Brookside Road” instead of Brookdale Road. The minutes were unanimously approved.

**3. *Committee Reports* -**

A. ***Buildings Committee*** – Ms. Rosenberg reported that the EAC Buildings Committee and Township educational workshop on the International Construction Code (ICC) as it pertains to the new Energy Code (IECC) for building contractors within this region was temporarily put on hold but Ms. Rosenberg reported that they are working with the Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter of Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc., located in East Norriton, Pennsylvania, to host a workshop in mid to late November or early December.

Ms. Rosenberg reported that she continues to work with other EAC members in the Philadelphia region and her EPA counterparts in Atlanta, Georgia to encourage a green building and homes webservice page to nationally encourage people to do green recycling (sustainability web page). The idea would be to list the International Building Code (IBC) and its 2009 amendments as well as items such as riparian buffers, with links to Philadelphia

Philadelphia Environmental Council (PEC), and items such as how to recycle old kitchen cabinets in one of four places. Ms. Rosenberg will be contacting a Penn State intern assigned to EPA to work on the website page and then connect to local links for environmental building codes. It is hoped that PEC will initially host the webpage in the short term.

Ms. Rosenberg reported that the Cheltenham Township School District is moving forward with the recycling efforts. Each school will have a green team made up of teachers, parents and students. Ms. Rosenberg plans to meet with the High School Assistant Principal next week.

Ms. Rosenberg also stated that she had heard indirectly that the School District had put out a Request for Proposals (RFP) to hire an architect for design plans for the construction of a new Cheltenham Elementary School. Ms. Rosenberg noted that the RFP requires LEED certification, so she feels that there is still a chance to have the Building Advisory Group (BAG) participate. The EAC could revisit the BAG concept as the new School Superintendent begins her post as the new school term commences on September 7, 2010. Ms. Rosenberg felt that the School District needs design concepts for managing water conservation needs in school buildings as they get built.

*B. Communication Committee* – Ms. Carroll reported that the EAC article for the Township semi-annual newsletter was submitted by Ms. Duffy and approved by the Township Public Information Office and is currently at the printer and will feature the EAC on the front page.

*C. Energy Committee* – Mr. Mettler was not present to give his report. Ms. Duffy reported that Mr. Mettler was working on the next Transition Towns Event, “Local

Food/Local Fun Banquet” is being hosted by Commissioner Hampton on Saturday, August 28, 2010 from 5-9 pm at Curtis Hall. (see attached)

Mr. Bale provided an update on EarthAid, a behavioral modification approach to home energy conservation. Mr. Bale reported that Mr. Carrington would be joining the committee and receive orientation. There are now five members on the team. The committee did receive a question about privacy. PECO worked with EarthAid to clarify that there is protection. The EarthAid Committee has a script prepared to go out to families and households. Mr. Bale also developed a flyer and provided a sample to members. The EAC members will review the flyer and get back to Mr. Bale. The EarthAid Committee plans to make information available at the Harvest Festival, Glenside Street Fair, Market Day and at certain synagogues.

*D. Watershed Committee* – Ms. Duffy reported on the following:

- A scheduled meeting with Ms. Minich regarding volunteer efforts for the Coventry Park Riparian Planting Project funded by the Township’s Tree Vitalize Grant is planned next week. Mr. Havir will also be soliciting proposals from licensed herbicide contractors for the eradication of the knotweed. The public planting day will be on Saturday, October 16, 2010. Clean-up will be necessary prior to commencing the public planting.
- Ms. Duffy reported that she recently visited the University of Massachusetts to attend the Northeast Organic Farming Workshop.
- Mr. Mettler and Ms. Moss attended a cookout/meeting for the LaMott Community Gardens on August 14, 2010.

- Ms. Baumgarten is working with the Philadelphia Water Department and is planning to have a Water Conservation Table at the Glenside Street Festival along with Enviroscaapes.
- Ms. Duffy stated that the proposed Riparian Corridor Ordinance is still under review by the ad hoc zoning committee. The next joint EAC and ad hoc zoning committee meeting is anticipated for September 27, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. at Curtis Hall. Ms. Carroll requested a copy of the proposed Ordinance prior to the joint meeting.

*E. Transportation Committee* – Mr. Innes, co-chairman of the committee, reported that several members of the EAC, met for a second time to continue discussion of developing a Transportation Committee focus. Ms. Innes asked if there was an EAC mission statement for the subcommittees. Ms. Duffy responded that there was a something developed in 2007. Mr. Innes stated that Mr. Dunbar will work on documents and mission statement; Ms. Chadwick will continue to offer her support on bus transit issues and Mr. Innes will work on bikable/ walkable cycling and walking connectivity which is not casual implementation. Mr. Innes asked if Mr. Havar could attend a transportation sub-committee meeting to offer some guidance, input and advice on issues not yet on project specific focus but rather advisory. The EAC could help with brainstorming. Ms. Rosenberg offered that a grant opportunity is available in November under the American Institute of Architects (AIA) program for sustainable communities. The EAC referenced the Comprehensive Plan that was completed five years ago and can be found on the Township website which could offer an overview for the basis of walkability and bikeability within the Township. Mr. Innes also

stated that with his work on the Cresheim Trail, connectors such as Arcadia University, are very important to the completion of the trail development into Cheltenham Township.

**4. *Old Business:***

A. Update on the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant - Mr. Havir reported that the invitation for bids has been let. The pre-bid meeting was held on August 9, 2010 and the bids are due on August 31, 2010. An award of contract is anticipated on September 15, 2010. The EAC asked that the bid results be e-mailed for review at the next meeting on September 20, 2010. The project includes a Rowland Community Center Boiler upgrade which includes mechanical and electrical prime contracts. Lighting was broken out to include basement hallway in the base bid and the kitchen and classrooms as part of add alternate bids. The Project is to be completed by December 31, 2010.

B. Update on Pennsylvania Electric Choice and PECO Smart Ideas Programs - Mr. Havir reported that the Township shared its electric use account data with Constellation Energy, a preferred vendor of the Municipal Utility Alliance, for alternative pricing for the Township. The Township is anticipating one and two year pricing options. EAC members shared their comments that the Township should check to see what mix of energy options (nuclear, hydro-power, coal, wind solar, natural gas) are supplied; inquire about minimum kWh purchases as well as peak load shedding which is used to determine prices for energy management systems.

C. Update on Community Sustainability Plan - Mr. Havir stated that he would be filing a formal application (\$100,000) for the Community Challenge Planning Program offered by HUD/ DOT/EPA on August 23, 2010. The EAC members suggested expanding the project narrative to reinforce the existing partnerships, such as SEPTA, Montgomery County, Tookany/Tacony-Frankford Watershed Partnership, Philadelphia Water Department, etc.

D. An EAC member inquired about the replanting by PECO at the corner of Old York Road and Church Road. Mr. Havir replied that PECO submitted a revegetation plan and it will be reviewed by the Shade Tree Commission at its August 26, 2010 meeting.

***5. New Business***

A. Preparation of Water Conservation Tips for Cheltenham Township - Ms. Rosenberg reported that EAC members, Duffy, Carrington, Essoka, Rosenberg and Innes as well as Sarah Robb Grieco of Tookany/Tacony-Frankford Watershed Partnership (TTF), and Township Staff Messrs, Havir and Reitano, met to discuss preparation of water conservation tips. Discussion covered many points such as, how to gauge the success of water conservation through the various efforts from volunteers via water flow rates to City and measurement benchmarks; funding for water conservation incentive plans such as rebates to change out old faucets and toilets and install new low flow faucets and toilets; shower head replacements with manufacturer certifications under the EPA WaterSense program for water fixtures distributed by Lowes and Home Depot. Development of a Water Conservation Policy statement from the Township was suggested to reach out to commercial and institutional property owners such as the School District, Arcadia University and Elkins Park Hospital to install low flow fixtures. It was also suggested that the EAC should work with the Township to develop a policy on how to deal with both sewer and stormwater crisis when they occur.

Mr. Havir said he submitted an EPA Promotional Partnership Agreement to WaterSense for Cheltenham Township.

The EAC discussed a venue for providing the public with information on water conservation and suggested hosting an area at the upcoming Harvest Festival event at Curtis

Park in either Curtis Hall or on the outside patio to display printed handouts, interactive visual handouts, and other media from TTF and EPA.

## **6. Other Business**

A. Mr. McHugh reported on a 350.org event on October 10, 2010 for climate change.

B. Mr. Havir stated that the Township has applied to PECO for its Smart Energy Incentive Rebate Program for its lighting upgrades completed last fall at the Public Works Building and the EMS Building. The Township also applied for a rebate to complete additional energy audits needed for design of the new heating and lighting upgrades at the Rowland Community Center.

B. Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Alternative Energy Grant Proposal – Mr. De Maria proposed to the EAC that the Township greenhouse be renovated to be self sufficient and be operated by community volunteers. He estimates that this can be accomplished through grant funding by the Pennsylvania DEP Alternative Energy Incentive Grant Program. Because the grant deadline is August 27, 2010, it was agreed by the EAC that a project could not be filed for this year since the EAC would need to formalize a recommendation to the Public Works Committee to consider for supporting the concept and filing for grant. The EAC said there were many unanswered questions that needed to be worked out. Perhaps this could be done in sufficient time to be considered next year for a future funding round. The EAC members also said that more information is needed before considering the proposal. Alternative sites were discussed such as the greenhouses on Waverly Road, on School District property, at the Waverly Road leaf site, etc. Alternative temporary poly tunnel structures could be considered. Ms. Rosenberg suggested a research grant through Pennsylvania Energy Development Authority (PEDA). Mr. De Maria thanked the EAC for its comments.

August 16, 2010 7:30 p.m.  
Township Administration Building

7. *Adjournment* – Ms. Duffy made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Ms. Moss. The meeting was adjourned at 9:48 p.m.



---

David G. Kraynik,  
Township Manager

Submitted by:  
Kathryn McDevitt



**McDevitt, Kathryn**

---

**From:** WMMettler3@aol.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 24, 2010 8:21 PM  
**To:** McDevitt, Kathryn; beduffy@comcast.net  
**Subject:** Kathy & Barbara: belated EAC Energy Report

8/24/10

Dear Kathy & Barbara:

My apologies for not getting the Energy Report to you before I took off to the Poconos. Here it is—if it is too late for our 8/16/10 minutes at least it will serve as an invitation to you both.

We would love for you to join us at the **Locavore (Local Foods) Banquet!**

Here's why this event is not only fun but important particularly with regards to **energy** and our **collective carbon footprint!**

An American will consume the equivalent of 26 barrels of oil each year. 10 of those barrels are for FOOD. This is because US Agri-business uses 10 calories of energy for every calorie of food produced, processed, packaged and transported.

The US Corporate Food System ("*Food, Inc.*") is unsustainable yet we are dependent on this system to feed our families in a world that is running out of oil and increasingly degraded by its use.

Locally grown food is becoming more and more important so we decided to party while we re-educate ourselves and our community with the—

## Locavore Banquet & Mini-Fest!

*Local Food & Local Fun*

A TRANSITION TOWNS EVENT

Commissioner Kathy Hampton is hosting this event on:

**Saturday, August 28 5-8 PM**

**Curtis Hall/Arboretum**

Greenwood Ave. & Church Rd.

Wyncote, PA 19095

*rain or shine*

**PLEASE BRING**

**A Potluck Dish to Share—ingredients grown within 100 miles of Cheltenham\***

**Your own reusable dishes, cups & utensils**

**A picnic blanket &/or chairs (only if the weather is comfortable)**

**An instrument, song, story, local food skill, or other talent to share**

Hope to see you there!

Respectfully,

*The Transition Cheltenham Initiating Team*

\* Info: [www.transitioncheltenham.org/locavore](http://www.transitioncheltenham.org/locavore)

8/25/2010