

The regular meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) was held tonight. Members present were Kurt Ahrens, Yuri Berg, Michael Freeman, Thomas McHugh and Lorna Rosenberg. Guests present were Ben Zaitz and Assistant Township Manager Alyson E. Elliott. Township liaison present was Nancy K. Gibson, Public Information Officer. See attached attendance sheet.

1. Call to Order: Mr. Ahrens called the meeting to order at 7:38 p.m.

2. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes: Ms. Rosenberg made a motion to accept the minutes of the June 20, 2016 meeting; seconded by Mr. Freeman. The motion was unanimously approved.

3. Committee Reports:

A. Communications and Engagement Committee: Mr. Ahrens noted that Mr. Friedman had drafted a one-page summary on the Township's sanitary sewer inflow and infiltration issue but has not circulated it for review yet.

B. Water and Ecology Committee: No report was given.

C. School Liaison Committee: Ms. Rosenberg submitted a report (see attached). She added that Karen Shaffran met with an impressive consultant who educates on sustainability and will arrange a follow-up meeting with Dr. Marseille. Ms. Rosenberg also solicited a proposal from a company that picks up organic waste from ShopRite to collect kitchen waste from Cheltenham High School. She noted that kitchen waste does not include food discarded by students in the cafeteria. When the School District Green Council is fully implemented, she anticipates comprehensive District-wide recycling will be a top priority. Finally, Ms. Rosenberg recommended the Township establish an MS4 committee including the School District and other large community entities since their actions could count towards the Township's MS4 obligations.

D. Energy and Emissions Committee: Mr. McHugh is attending the Draft Zoning Code Workshops to support the EAC's position that the type/extent of environmental bonuses granted to developers should be commensurate with the type/impact of whatever measures the developer takes to secure them. Mr. McHugh said the county's response to the EAC recommendation suggests it falls under land development instead of zoning, but the bonus concept is located in the Draft Zoning Code. Additionally, Mr. McHugh will attend a meeting at Representative Kevin Boyle's office on July 20 to discuss the Carbon Fee and Dividend Proposal.

4. Old Business:

A. Discussion of Electronic Voting/Electronic Meetings: Tabled.

B. Review of Outreach to Other Township Groups: Mr. Ahrens would like EAC members to continually think about how to make connections with other committees and the broader community. For example, he may attend the Police Open House on July 27 to speak about Sustainable Cheltenham with some of the officers.

5. New Business:

A. Proposed Regulation of Bamboo: Although some members thought the issue was addressed by the draft Ordinance, Mr. McHugh asked Ms. Elliott to be sure that native bamboo, which is not invasive, would not be subject to the proposed regulations.

B. Update on LED Audit: Ms. Elliott reported that the LED audit report is expected to be presented at the Public Works Committee meeting on August 3. In light of recent medical reports, if the Commissioners proceed with the conversion, the Township will be looking for warmer light, less glare and good coverage.

C. Potential Participation in SolSmart: Members were glad to hear that the Township has applied to participate in an initiative to get free technical assistance to review Township

policies and procedures to remove any soft obstacles to solar power use. Mr. McHugh noted that, although more complicated, thermal solar is more efficient than solar panels.

D. *Young Lungs at Play*: After brief discussion, Mr. McHugh made a motion recommending that the Township adopt an appropriate policy or Ordinance to prohibit smoking within all Township parks; seconded by Mr. Berg. The motion was unanimously approved.

E. *Discussion of Proposed Anti-Idling Ordinance*: Ms. Elliott noted that a state law regulating idling of diesel-powered vehicles would supersede any locally adopted Ordinance. Also, enforcing an anti-idling law for gas-powered vehicles would strain police resources. Because members thought school buses and parents dropping off or picking up students were the greatest offenders, Ms. Rosenberg will look into the possibility of enacting a School District policy to address it. Ms. Elliott noted that anti-idling signs must be PennDOT signs.

F. *Tookany Watershed Implementation Plan*: Ms. Elliott announced that the Tookany/Tacony-Frankford Watershed Partnership (TTF) received a grant to develop a Tookany Watershed Implementation Plan to identify and prioritize project opportunities in the watershed. Working with Temple University's Center for Sustainable Communities (CSC), TTF will pinpoint locations in the watershed with potential for green stormwater infrastructure and restoration projects. Mr. McHugh recommended the effort be coordinated with the results of the Tookany Creek Flood Reduction Feasibility Study.

G. *Storm Drain Marking*: Ms. Elliott announced that TTF would undertake a storm drain marking project in the Township this fall. Mr. Ahrens will help promote the effort and solicit volunteers.

6. Adjournment: Ms. Rosenberg made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mr. Berg. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

July 18, 2016
Township Administration Building



Bryan T. Havir
Township Manager

Submitted by: Nancy K. Gibson
Public Information Officer

Green Schools Committee 6/27/16

US Dept of Ed - Green Ribbon Schools – Jenkintown was a national winner 2016:

- Good goal for all or one of our schools
- Plan a visit with Jenkintown SD in August to learn about their path to Green Ribbon (they are using Eco Schools <http://www.nwf.org/Eco-Schools-USA.aspx> to guide their program)
- Applications for Green Ribbon are distributed by the PA Dept of Ed in October, due in December and sent to US Dept of Ed for consideration in February. National winners announced on April 22 Earth Day. Up to 4 schools/year can be nominated from each State. Jenkintown was a State winner only in 2015 and moved up to national winner in 2016.

Next steps from June 16, meeting with Dr. Marseille –

How to use the Facilities Master Plan for student learning?

CONSIDERATIONS FOR A DISTRICT GREEN COUNCIL

Cheltenham Green Council will have school reps: Members from every school (2 from CHS)
Extra Duty/Extra Pay approved by Administration

Jean McWilliams: school board representative to our schools committee

Anne Rapoport: commissioner representative to our schools committee

Suggested teachers for Green Council:

Glenside: Andrew Smith

Myers: Mimi Rubin?

Cheltenham Elem: K Falso

Wyncote: Steve Buckingham

EP: Andrew Altman

CBK: Debi DiBattista

CHS: Ana Salazar DiGiulio + ?

The Green Council will have a teacher representative from every school and 2 District Leaders as suggested by Dr. Marseille (1 elem, 1 secondary)

Not everyone has to attend every meeting, include parents and students

Eco-schools provides a good framework for sustainability - It provides Environmental Audits for 10 pathways if each school is using eco schools resources there are many approaches possible for school participation

Sustainability focus must be built into curriculum and not extra for teachers to include it in their teaching, including using their buildings as teaching tools.

- Teachers will need guidance on how to do this – Lorna will connect Karen with the Cloud Institute – Educating for Sustainability <http://cloudinstitute.org/>

Consider sponsoring a Community-wide - Sustainability Expo – or TED-Ex Sustainable Cheltenham

TOP PRIORITIES FOR THE GREEN COUNCIL:

Recycling must be addressed district wide

- Professional development training on recycling for custodians is a must! – Lorna will check with Waste Management our recycling contractor
- Dr. Bavi should also communicate recycling protocol to maintenance staff
- Green Council should decide on the recycling protocol
- Principals could work with their schools to sign a recycling oath
- District-wide recycling awareness campaign

Other top priorities

- Greenspaces at each school with science/art curricula – tie-in
- Energy reduction and education at each school
- Healthy Schools – nutrition, physical activity and healthy indoor/ outdoor spaces (green cleaning, disease prevention and management, indoor air quality etc)