

The regular meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) was held tonight. Members present were Kurt Ahrens, Yuri Berg, Elliot Friedman and Thomas McHugh. 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 7:40 p.m.
2. **Acceptance of Meeting Minutes:** Mr. Berg made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 15, 2016 meeting; seconded by Mr. McHugh. The motion was unanimously approved.

**3. Committee Reports:**

*A. Communications and Engagement Committee:* Mr. Ahrens noted that he has begun a new job that is consuming a lot of his time and encouraged members to send him material to include in the eNewsletter. Discussion of eNewsletter topics will be included on future agendas. Mr. McHugh presented material on a Citizens Climate Lobby event at Arcadia University on October 3 (see attached). Mr. Ahrens expects to distribute the latest eNewsletter later this week that will include information about the sanitary sewer issue and the special meeting scheduled on September 28.

*B. Water and Ecology Committee:* Mr. McHugh commented that the September meeting of the Public Works Committee revealed that Abington Township will not participate in the nine-basin flood-control plan, which featured three dry basins in Abington Township, that was initially proposed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as a result of the Tookany Creek Flood Reduction Feasibility Study. At that meeting he also reiterated his recommendation that the Township should prioritize inspection for sewer infiltration in areas where public eight-inch sewer pipes intersect or abut underground tributaries.

*C. School Liaison Committee:* See attached.

*D. Energy and Emissions Committee:* Mr. McHugh reported that the Public Works Committee had a positive discussion about the LED Lighting Upgrade Project study results, including a preference for warmer lights, possibly even warmer than the sample LED lights installed in Springfield Township. Ms. Gibson added that study result information is available online as part of the committee's September agenda. The project is scheduled for approval at this month's Board of Commissioners meeting.

**4. Old Business:**

*A. Storm Drain Marking:* Ms. Gibson advised that the storm-drain marking workshops that Tookany/Tacony-Frankford Watershed Partnership (TTF) had tentatively planned in September have been postponed until spring 2017.

*B. Purchase of Teaching Tool:* Mr. Ahrens volunteered to contact Karen Shaffron and Lorna Rosenberg to solicit suggestions for teaching tools, such as an energy audit toolkit, that the EAC might purchase to enhance environmental education.

*C. Draft Zoning Ordinance:* Mr. McHugh reported that a recent workshop for the Draft Zoning Ordinance addressed the issue of bonuses offered to developers, which the EAC recommended be commensurate with the environmental benefit of whatever action the developer takes to secure them. He distributed copies of the latest draft of the "Bonuses for Sustainable Development" section (see attached). Members are encouraged to review it and be prepared to provide feedback at the October EAC meeting so a response can be presented at the next workshop on October 20 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

**5. New Business:**

*A. Community Harvest Festival:* Ms. Gibson asked if members wanted to host a table at the Community Harvest Festival on October 15 from noon until 5:00 p.m. Mr. Friedman and Mr. Ahrens volunteered to staff an EAC table, so Ms. Gibson will reserve one for the event.

*B. Eagle Scout Projects:* Mr. Ahrens invited members to brainstorm environmental projects that could be completed as Eagle Scout projects. Mr. McHugh suggested a scout could catalogue a history of flooding events in the community. Mr. Ahrens noted that Eagle Scout projects must demonstrate leadership via a group activity.

**6. Announcements:** Ms. Gibson announced that Cheltenham Township recently won a 2016 Sustainable Award [Diamond Level] from the Greater Valley Forge Transportation Management Association. [Cheltenham, which consecutively won platinum, gold, silver and bronze awards in the past four years, has installed bike racks at numerous Township facilities; participated in the Air Quality Partnership; adopted a sustainability plan that includes transportation-related initiatives; replaced numerous vehicles in its fleet with fuel-efficient hybrids, low-emission vehicles or electric-charging vehicles; continued to support free transportation for older residents in the community; and more.]

**7. Adjournment:** Mr. Friedman made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mr. Berg. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.



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Bryan T. Havir  
Township Manager

Submitted by: Nancy K. Gibson  
Public Information Officer





## **Don't just stand there.**

Come watch a short documentary, *Facing the Surge*, that explains what's happening and why, then join a discussion of what we can do about it.

Sunday, October 2nd, 2PM

Easttown Library & Information Center, Berwyn, PA

Monday, October 3rd, 7PM

Stiteler Auditorium, Arcadia University, Glenside, PA

*Seating is limited. Let us know you are coming!* [www.cclusa.org/register](http://www.cclusa.org/register)

This event is part of the 2016 East Coast screening tour, made possible by the efforts of filmmaker Diogo Freire. The tour, which begins in New England and ends in the Southeast, is designed to raise awareness about the immediate impacts of sea level rise and to inspire community action. For more information about the documentary: [www.adaptationnow.com](http://www.adaptationnow.com)

Please join us.



# **Citizens' Climate Lobby**

[citizensclimatelobby.org](http://citizensclimatelobby.org)

EAC Schools Committee – September, 2016

The committee met on August 29. We sent an email to Dr. Marseille asking who he will appoint to chair the green committee.

On September 5 Dr. Marseille responded and said that the administrative contact for the School District will be Iris Parker the current curriculum advisor for K-6. She is excited about this position. Lorna Rosenberg sent Iris an updated list of which teachers from each school might be interested in being on the Green Committee for extra duty/extra pay.

Iris has contacted all principals to recommend a teacher from their school for the committee. Those teachers will receive extra duty/extra pay.

By the end of September Iris is expecting each school to have a representative and she will meet with our committee to discuss who else will be on the committee and how it will operate.

All EAC members are invited and encouraged to attend the Green Ribbon Tour being sponsored by the US Department of Education on Sept 28 @ 1:30 pm at the Jenkintown School District. Other schools in Eastern Pennsylvania are on the tour. It is a great opportunity to learn about the path of other schools toward sustainable practices.

**U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools (ED-GRS) and its Green Strides outreach initiative share promising practices and resources in the areas of safe, healthy, and sustainable school environments; nutrition and outdoor physical activity; and environmental and sustainability education.**

To bring additional attention to honorees' practices, ED-GRS has conducted an annual Green Strides tour, allowing schools, school districts, and postsecondary institutions to share their work with community leaders and policymakers and celebrate their achievements. The following is the tentative tour schedule. Updates will be shared through our newsletter.

***Tuesday, September 27***

**9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. – Tour of Albert M. Greenfield Elementary School, 2200 Chestnut St, Philadelphia, PA 19103**

**10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. – Tour of Springside Chestnut Hill Academy, 500 W Willow Grove Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19118**

**1:15 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. – Tour of Harriton High School, 600 N Ithan Ave, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010**

**2:405 p.m. – 3:40 p.m. – Tour of Radnor Middle School, 150 Louella Ave, Wayne, PA 19087**

**Wednesday, September 28**

**9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. – Tour of Charles F. Patton Middle School, 760 Unionville Road, Kennett Square, PA 19348**

**10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. – Tour of Westtown School, 975 Westtown Road, West Chester, PA 19382**

**1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. – Tour of the School District of Jenkintown, 325 Highland Ave, Jenkintown, PA 19046**

**3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. – Tour of Tour of Goodnoe Elementary, 298 Frost Lane, Newtown, PA, 18940**

***Thursday, September 29***

**9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. –Tour of Broughal Middle School, 114 West Morton Street, Bethlehem, PA 18015**

**10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. – 2016 Tour Discussion Session, Broughal Middle School, 114 West Morton Street, Bethlehem, PA 18015**

**11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – Tour of Nazareth Area Middle School, 94 Friedenstahl Avenue, Nazareth, PA 18064**

**2:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. – Tour of Northampton Community College, Monroe Campus, 2411 Pennsylvania 715, Tannersville, PA 18372**

**All are welcome to join the tour! Past participants have included federal, state, and local agency officials and elected officers, such as governors, state legislators, mayors, and city council members. Members of the press are also invited to attend and amplify honorees' promising efforts, many of which leverage free resources that are available to all interested parties. Moreover, neighboring schools, districts, and colleges and universities are invited to come and learn from the examples on the tour.**

**This year we'll be focusing on how project- and solutions-based learning provides opportunities to expand traditional learning into the real world to create real change for the betterment of our society and the environment. The tour will highlight how schools teaching effective environmental education through authentic learning help students to learn higher-order thinking skills, collaboration, and problem-solving, preparing them for the careers of the future, in addition to making positive contributions to their communities and planet.**

**I look forward to meeting many representatives that are just beginning their green schools journey and to celebrating the school communities that we have already honored with our award. With a little elbow-grease, strong partnerships, resourcefulness, and leadership, I'm confident that I'll have the opportunity to read about visitors in a coming awards cycle of ED-GRS.**

**See you on the road ... and don't forget to carpool!**

**§295-1504. CLASS ONE AND CLASS TWO BONUSES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

A. The following bonuses shall be available to any development of Class One developments practicing sustainable development practices in compliance with 1504.C, below:

1. Maximum impervious area may be increased to **fifty percent (50%)** of the total lot area.
2. Minimum green area may be reduced to **fifty percent (50%)** of the total lot area.
3. Maximum building height may be increased to **sixty (60)** feet.

B. The following bonuses shall be available to any development of Class Two Mixed Use Development practicing sustainable development practices in compliance with 1504.C, below:

1. A FAR bonus of 0.5.

C. In order to qualify for the development bonus the applicant must include at least **three four** of the following **sustainable development options**:

1. Porous or permeable paving for no less than fifty (50%) percent of all driveways and off-street parking areas.
2. Reduce heat island effect for no less than 50% of all nonroof site paving (including roads, sidewalk, courtyards, parking lots and structures, and driveways), by using shade trees, planters, vegetated shading structures, shading structures covered by energy generation systems, open-grid pavement systems (which are 50% unbound or more), paving materials with a solar reflectance (SR) value of 0.33 or above, or any combination thereof.
3. Site-wide integrated stormwater management facilities that utilize rainwater harvesting for irrigation and vegetated swales and basins to improve water quality.
4. On-site renewable energy production, composed of solar, wind, biomass, or combination thereof, with production capacity of at least twenty (20%) percent of the project's annual electrical and thermal energy costs.
5. Vegetated green rooftops on no less than seventy-five percent (75%) of all roof areas. All roof areas to receive vegetative green roof treatment shall be pitched no greater than 2%.
6. On-site use of geothermal heating and cooling systems for all building heating and cooling needs in the development.
7. Proposed development is located within a **one thousand (1,000)** foot radius of a regional rail station.

~~7. Site-wide implementation of one or more passive solar building design techniques that maximize the thermal benefits of the sun's daily and annual cycles. These passive solar techniques include, but are not limited to, large expanses of south-facing glass walls, skylights, window awnings, solar heat sinks, trees positioned to shade the buildings and~~

~~reduce air conditioning loads, extraordinary insulation levels, and similar techniques. It shall be the responsibility of the applicant to prove to the Zoning Hearing Board that there will be substantial (more than fifteen percent [15%]) annual energy savings through the use of the method(s) selected by the applicant. The decision of the Zoning Hearing Board is final in this regard.~~

~~8. All buildings proposed to be built are certified LEED Silver or higher.~~

8. Dedication of habitat or conservation land for threatened or endangered wildlife and ecological communities, as identified and controlled under the U.S. Endangered Species Act, the Pennsylvania Game Commission or other relevant governmental agency. Such land may be composed of lot area restricted from development by the Floodplain Conservation District, Riparian Corridor Conservation District, and Steep Slope Conservation District. Land to be included for dedication shall be protected in perpetuity by conservation easement or a deed restriction in compliance with **295-2607, Open Space Standards**. If the site contains no threatened or endangered wildlife or ecological communities, this sustainable development option cannot be used to qualify for bonuses.

9. Minimize the disturbance of existing contiguous woodlands on the site, the area of which shall be no less than three (3) contiguous acres. To qualify for this option, disturbance to existing woodlands shall be no greater than 5%, and woodlands to be disturbed or removed must be replanted contiguous with the remainder of the woodland area, and illustrated on the Master Plan. Woodland area proposed to meet this option must have existed with trees for no less than ten (10) years at the time of application for development under this Chapter. Such land may be composed of lot area restricted from development by the Floodplain Conservation District, Riparian Corridor Conservation District, and Steep Slope Conservation District. If the site contains no existing contiguous woodland area as defined herein, this sustainable development option cannot be used to qualify for bonuses.

**D.** A Development Agreement shall be executed concurrent with Land Development approval between the Township and the Applicant, stipulating the terms under which bonuses for sustainable development are granted, including which sustainable development options the Applicant agrees to construct, as well as any penalty for noncompliance or substitutions permitted, should the sustainable development options originally agreed to by the Applicant not be built.