

**RADNOR TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**

MINUTES

The July meeting of the Radnor Township Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) was called to Order by Chairperson Brenda Gotanda at 6:00 P.M. on July 26, 2012 at the Radnor Township Municipal Building, Radnorshire Room, 301 Iven Avenue, Wayne, Pennsylvania.

Those present were: Brenda Gotanda, Chairperson
 Josh Hilbert, Vice Chairperson
 Daniel Meier
 Anne Poulin
 Sloan Walker
 Skip Kunda, Planning Commission Representative

Those not present were: Stephen Elliot
 Robin Mann
 Kelly Doyle, Board of Health Representative
 Chris Campbell, Parks and Recreation Representative

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MAY/JUNE 2012 MINUTES

On motions made and seconded, the minutes of the June 11, 2012, EAC meeting were unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Gotanda made the following announcements:

- The Delaware Valley Green Building Council will hold its annual celebration on September 27 at the Barnes Foundation, a LEED Platinum building. All are encouraged to attend. The celebration will launch preparations for the annual Greenbuild conference of the U.S. Green Building Council, which will be held in Philadelphia in 2013. For more information about the September event and about how to get involved in the 2013 conference/expo, visit <http://www.dvgbc.org/>.
- Philadelphia has passed an ordinance requiring owners of large commercial buildings (50,000 square feet or greater) to annually benchmark their energy and water usage in EPA's Energy Star Portfolio Manager and to report the information to the City. The Statement of Energy Performance generated by Portfolio Manager must also be provided to prospective tenants and prospective purchasers upon request. The City Office of Sustainability will run the program.

WORKGROUP REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

A. Climate Protection

Mr. Hilbert, Mr. Walker, and Ms. Gotanda attended the meeting of the BOC on July 16. They outlined the GHG Action Plan proposed by the EAC and presented a resolution that would express BOC acknowledgement of the proposed Action Plan and approval of the appointment a Green Team, the first of the GHG Action Plan recommendations. The BOC will vote on the resolution at the August 20 meeting. Meanwhile, the Township Manager is already forming a Green Team, to be headed by Melissa Conn.

B. Sustainability

1. WaterSense Tips:

Mr. Walker shared information on a number of water issues. He distributed an update from the US Drought Monitor, which shows extreme drought conditions through much of the United State. The WaterSense website (<http://www.epa.gov/watersense/>) offers a number of tips for saving water in the summer months. Between 30 and 70% of household water is used for landscaping, so one measure is not to overwater. The Cooperative Extension Service offers information on appropriate watering. Other tips are to water in the early morning and to sweep walks and driveways rather than spraying them with water.

Mr. Walker also shared information concerning the WaterSense Pledge, which can be found on the WaterSense website. The pledge targets individuals and asks that they pledge to take three water-saving steps: check toilets for leaks, tighten pipe connections, and replace plumbing fixtures that need replacing with products certified to save water. During June, a challenge was run to see which communities could get the highest rate of residents taking the pledge. Quakertown, PA, was first among communities between 30,001 and 100,000; Wayne (zip code 19087) was 38th in that category.

2. Fuel Efficient Cars:

Mr. Walker also shared information about sales of hybrid and electric cars, which stayed strong in June. Discussion followed concerning the ease of access to locations to charge electric vehicles.

3. Rain Garden: Mr. Hilbert provided an update on the rain garden. The Township has a grant to construct a rain garden in Cowan Park. Steve Norcini has asked the EAC to help identify the appropriate plants to use in the rain garden and to help enlist volunteers to work with the Township on planting the rain garden. Mr. Meier offered to help. Mr. Meier also reported on the rain garden/rain barrel project for which the Garret Hill Coalition received a WREN grant.

4. LED Lighting: Mr. Kunda shared information that his business has gathered on replacing fluorescent lighting with LED bulbs. The bulbs cost more at the outset but provide high-quality light, use much less energy, and last 15-17 years. The change should result in substantial savings as well as reduction of GHG emissions. Discussion regarding the availability of LED lights for home or commercial use and the possibility of encouraging the Township to change its lighting.

C. Community Environmental Awareness

No report this month.

LIAISON REPORTS

A. Planning Commission

Mr. Kunda reported on the process that the Planning Commission anticipates for considering revisions in the Township's Institutional Zoning provisions. The Commission anticipates 4-6 additional meetings on the issue. The consultant hired by the Township will make further presentations at future Commission meetings. Discussion followed concerning the best way for the EAC to formulate and provide feedback on the zoning issues and proposals. The EAC workgroup on this matter will include Ms. Poulin and Messrs. Kunda, Hilbert and Walker.

B. Board of Health

No report this month.

C. Parks and Recreation

No report this month.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no further public participation.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on a motion made and seconded, the meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Poulin