

**RADNOR TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**

MINUTES

The February meeting of the Radnor Township Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) was called to Order by Vice Chairperson Sloan Walker at 6:00 P.M. on February 28, 2013, at the Radnor Township Municipal Building, Radnorshire Room, 301 Iven Avenue, Wayne, Pennsylvania.

Those present were: Sloan Walker, Vice Chairperson
 Robin Mann
 Sally Mattison
 Daniel Meier
 Anne Poulin
 Skip Kunda, Planning Commission Representative
 Luke Clark, Parks and Recreation Representative

Those not present were: Josh Hilbert, Chairperson
 Stephen Elliot
 Kelly Doyle, Board of Health Representative

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 2013 MINUTES

On motion made and seconded, the minutes of the January 24, 2013, EAC meeting were unanimously approved.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE LIAISON

Mr. Walker welcomed Luke Clark as the new liaison to the EAC.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Walker made the following announcements:

1. There will be an electronics collection event on March 9, 2013, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Bonner & Prendergast High School, Drexel Hill, PA. The collection is free, and will accept "Anything with a Plug!" The proceeds will benefit the school. Due to new DEP regulations, Radnor Township will no longer be able to accept electronics on open truck. Radnor Township will hold an additional electronics collection on June 15, 2013. Details will be available on the Township website.

2. The environmental law firm Manko, Gold, Katcher & Fox, LLP and their partners, Wawa and NBC10, are sponsoring the 2013 Environmental Community Service Award. Two schools will each be awarded a \$5,000 honorarium to enhance environmental programs. The sponsors are looking for school classes, clubs or teams (6th to 12th grade students) that currently have a worthwhile environmental community service school project,

demonstrating a connection to their community. The application may be found at www.mgkflaw.com and must be completed by Monday March 4, 2013.

3. The Environmental Youth Leadership Conference, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Educators (PAEE), will be held at the Pocono Environmental Education Center (PEEC), on March 15-16, 2013. Middle and high school students will attend workshops and present a poster session at the PAEE conference and participate in PEEC-led activities. For more info, visit <http://www.paee.net/2013%20Conference/index.html>
4. The 2013 PA/NJ Sustainability Symposium will be held on March 12th, 2013 at Temple University. The symposium will be attended by industry, university and community leaders and will focus on a range of green issues. For more information, visit: <http://www.dvgbc.org/education/view/pa-nj-sustainability-symposium-2013>.
5. The Haverford Township EAC is hosting an event on April 21 for Earth Day. They are looking for volunteers to talk about electric cars, hybrids, and electric bicycles. Mr. Walker plans to attend and encouraged others to do the same. For information, contact Peter Puglionesi (peter.puglionesi@appliedehs.com).

Ms. Mattison made the following announcements:

1. The Commonwealth has reopened the Alternative Clean Energy Program and the High Performance Building Program. Information on both programs can be found on the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (<http://www.newpa.com>).
2. The Academy of Natural Sciences recently held an event focused on natural disaster preparedness. Some adaptation steps, such as planting trees, are already being taken. The necessary planning for response to a natural disaster depends on the particular characteristics of the community in question.

Ms. Mann made the following announcements:

1. The Darby Creek Valley Association Annual Cleanup will be held on April 27, 2013. Information is available at <http://www.dcva.org/>. The Radnor Township site has not yet been determined.
2. The Union of Concerned Scientists has published a valuable new book: "Smarter, Cooler: Practical Steps for Low-Carbon Living." The book identifies the most important carbon-related issues and gives practical tips. It is available at <http://www.ucsusa.org/publications/>.

APPROVAL OF EAC 2012 ANNUAL REPORT

Mr. Walker presented the EAC 2012 Annual Report, which was prepared by former-Chair Brenda Gotanda and had been circulated by email prior to the meeting. On motion made and seconded, the report was approved. It is posted on the Radnor Green section of the Township website.

WORKGROUP REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

A. Radnor Green Team

The Radnor Green Team, chaired by Melissa Conn, has met twice. Most recently, they received information on greening offices. In order to better support the work of the Green Team, EAC members will be paired with Green Team members to work on high priority items in the GHG Action Plan. The following members have been assigned to the following items:

- Josh Hilbert: Streetlights and traffic signals (items #3 and #4)
- Robin Mann: Green power purchasing (item #7)
- Sally Mattison: Efficiency improvements in Radnor's buildings (items #9 and #10)
- Sloan Walker: Greening of vehicle fleet
- Anne Poulin: Developing a green procurement policy (item #13)

B. Sustainability

WaterSense Resolution: Mr. Walker presented an amendment to the EAC resolution recommending that Pennsylvania offer an annual sales tax holiday for those who purchase WaterSense fixtures and appliances. The amendment will extend the resolution to Energy Star products as well. On motion made and seconded, the amended resolution was approved. A copy is attached.

LIAISON REPORTS

A. Planning Commission

Mr. Kunda reported that the Planning Commission met twice this month. One meeting addressed only the Villanova University proposal, which will be before the Commission again Monday March 4. Mr. Kunda also reported that the Planned Institutional Zoning process is continuing; he circulated the latest drafts of the ordinance by email; the Commission will discuss them on Thursday March 7. Mr. Walker noted that the current draft includes incentives for green roofs. A discussion of green roofs followed.

B. Board of Health

No report this month.

C. Parks and Recreation

Mr. Clark reported that the Parks and Recreation Board sent its recommendations concerning the proposals for the Willows to the BOC; the top 5 proposals will be the subject of open hearings before the BOC. Mr. Clark further reported that Parks and Recreation has a number of events coming up, including an Easter egg hunt and a car show; information is available on the Township website. The Trail Subcommittee, on which Mr. Clark serves, is looking at extending the Radnor Trail into Martha Brown's Woods. They are exploring the feasibility of taking the trail past route 476 and connecting with other regional trails.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Meier and Ms. Poulin updated the EAC on the pursuit of possible grant money for environmental projects. EAC members have expressed interest in pursuing grant money for either detention basin improvements or rain garden development. Mr. Meier reported that he had participated in a webinar focused on PENNVEST and WREN funding. PENNVEST funds large projects, with a particular emphasis on water quality issues. It will fund projects only if they are fully planned, meaning that an upfront investment for engineering planning is required for their applications. If the Township wants to pursue funding for detention basin work, PENNVEST would be a good source to consider. Mr. Walker is a member of the Radnor Stormwater Advisory Group and expressed strong support for a detention basin project.

The short term question is whether to apply this March for a WREN grant. Any detention basin project would probably involve identifying one or more home owners' associations with which to partner, because the Township does not have any detention basins suitable for a small project. The Township is in favor of seeking funding this year for a rain garden to be located either at Cowan Field or in the traffic triangle near the Wayne WaWa. Ms. Poulin reported that both Audubon PA and the Radnor Conservancy have expressed a willingness to partner on a rain garden and native plant project. Ms. Poulin and Mr. Meier will follow up on the grant application.

As the EAC liaison to the Radnor Bird Town group, Ms. Poulin reminded everyone that Radnor is now an Audubon Bird Town (<http://pa.audubon.org/bird-town>). A number of township residents participated in the recent Great Backyard Bird Count. Residents can show support for Radnor's Bird Town membership by registering their homes with Audubon and making their yards bird-friendly. To register, go to <http://pa.audubon.org/register-your-property>.

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

Resolution in Support of a Tax Holiday for WaterSense and Energy Star Products in Pennsylvania

Submitted by the Radnor Environmental Advisory Council
February 2013

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has experienced significant droughts in five of the last seven years;¹

WHEREAS, Radnor Township is a Promotional Partner in the United States Environmental Protection Agency's WaterSense Program, which promotes water efficiency and conservation through public education and water-efficient WaterSense-labeled products and programs;

WHEREAS, citizens of Pennsylvania can significantly reduce their water use by installing faucets and appliances which bear the WaterSense label from the United States Environmental Protection Agency;²

WHEREAS, Energy Star is a joint program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy helping us all save money and protect the environment through energy efficient products and practices;

WHEREAS, Americans saved more than \$23 billion on their utility bills in 2011 with the help of ENERGY STAR and prevented an amount of greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to what 43 million vehicles would produce;³

WHEREAS, in 2011, Energy Star helped Americans save more than 277 billion kilowatt-hours (kWh)—about 5 percent of U.S. electricity demand;⁴ therefore be it

RESOLVED, that, in order to encourage Pennsylvanians to conserve water and energy, the Radnor Environmental Advisory Council recommends that the General Assembly and Governor of Pennsylvania should declare an annual sales tax holiday for up to one week on all products bearing a WaterSense or Energy Star label.

¹ PennState College of Agricultural Sciences, Drought and Climate Information, <http://extension.psu.edu/water/drought/faqs>

² EPA WaterSense, Indoor Water Use in the United States, <http://www.epa.gov/WaterSense/pubs/indoor.html>

³ Energy Star and Other Climate Protection Partnerships, 2011 Annual Report, Letter from the Administrator, p.1

⁴ Id.