

**RADNOR TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**

MINUTES

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

Those present were: Josh Hilbert, Chairperson
 Stephen Elliot
 Sally Mattison
 Anne Poulin
 Skip Kunda, Planning Commission Representative

Those not present were: Sloan Walker, Vice Chairperson
 Robin Mann
 Daniel Meier
 Luke Clark, Parks and Recreation Representative
 Kelly Doyle, Board of Health Representative

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 2013 MINUTES

On motion made and seconded, the minutes of the February 28, 2013, EAC meeting were unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Hilbert made the following announcements:

1. Radnor Township, in partnership with the Community Garden Club at Wayne, is sponsoring their annual "Township Manager's Beautification Award" program. This year's program begins April 1, 2013, with nominations being accepted until September 15, 2013. The program is intended to recognize residents and businesses who have taken exceptional care of their homes and businesses and whose extra effort into the exterior beautification of their property is well evidenced. All Radnor Township residents and businesses are eligible to participate. Nominations can be called in or emailed in to the Office of the Township Manager at rzienkowski@radnor.org.
2. On Friday, April 12, 2013, Philadelphia is participating in Walk to Work Day, sponsored by the Clean Air Council. Information is available at <http://www.facebook.com/events/439730196104196>.
3. DVGBC's 2013 Green Building Celebration will be held on May 2. Information is available at <http://www.dvgbc.org/AGBC2013>. Discounted tickets available before April 8, 2013 on the DVGBC.org website.

4. There will be a planting event at the new rain garden at Cowan Park in North Wayne on April 21st. Further details will be made available shortly, and posted on the Radnor Township website. A new citizens group called the Friends of Cowan Park has been organized, and can be contacted at friendsofcowanpark@gmail.com.

Ms. Mattison made the following announcements:

1. Discounted home energy audits are still available through Energy Works. Information is available at <http://energyworksnow.com/>.
2. The PA Department of Environmental Protection is offering grants for solar energy. Information is available at http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/grants_loans_tax_credits/10395/pa_sunshine_solar_program/821790.
3. New Jersey has a program to certify municipalities for their efforts to become sustainable. Information is available at <http://www.sustainablejersey.com/>.

WORKGROUP REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

A. Radnor Green Team

Mr. Hilbert reported that Melissa Conn, chair of The Radnor Green Team, recently sent out an email forming Green Team working groups. Robin Mann is already working with her group on green power purchasing. Each EAC member should follow up with his or her Green Team partner.

B. Sustainability

WaterSense Tip of the Month: Mr. Hilbert reported that he has tracked his water use since he installed WaterSense toilets a year ago. His water use has dropped from 135 gallons per day to 100 gallons per day.

LIAISON REPORTS

A. Planning Commission

Mr. Kunda reported that the Planning Commission is focusing on plans advanced by the colleges and has suspended the Planning Institutional ordinance review for a month. The Villanova University plan will be discussed next Monday. The plan would reduce the amount of paver area and would introduce water retention to that part of campus. The pedestrian bridge may eliminate the need for a traffic light at that location.

B. Board of Health

No report this month.

C. Parks and Recreation

No report this month.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Hilbert reported that Mr. Walker has been working on the tax holiday proposal. The next step will be to present the resolution to the Board of Commissioners at the April 8 meeting.

Ms. Poulin reported that the Greenways and Open Space Network Plan Subcommittee has completed its draft of the Scope of Work for the consultant to help the Township develop a new open space plan. The SOW is currently being reviewed by DCNR.

Mr. Elliot reported that, in support of Radnor's Bird Town membership, he will be registering their homes with Audubon. To register, go to <http://pa.audubon.org/register-your-property>.

Mr. Elliot raised a question about the status of the Radnor storm water utility proposals. He will follow up and check on their status.

Ms. Mattison raised a question about how best to share the announcements with the community. Possibilities such as a Twitter account, a crawl during the meeting, or broadcast on Channel 10 were discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Kunda noted the advantages of using natural gas to fuel vehicles and asked whether the Township has explored this option.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Chan Tanawalla, the Vice Chair of the Valley Township EAC, asked for advice from the Radnor EAC and requested a representative to address his EAC. He listed their three top concerns as storm water, an open space plan, and an official map. Discussion followed.

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.