

**RADNOR TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**

MINUTES

The June meeting of the Radnor Township Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) was called to Order by Chairperson Josh Hilbert at 6:00 P.M. on June 27, 2013, at the Radnor Township Municipal Building, Radnorshire Room, 301 Iven Avenue, Wayne, Pennsylvania.

Those present were: Josh Hilbert, Chairperson
 Sloan Walker, Vice Chairperson
 Stephen Elliot
 Robin Mann
 Sally Mattison
 Anne Poulin
 Daniel Meier
 Luke Clark, Parks and Recreation Representative
 Skip Kunda, Planning Commission Representative
 Leonard Donato, Board of Health Representative

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MAY 2013 MINUTES

On motion made and seconded, the minutes of the May 23, 2013, EAC meeting were unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Hilbert made the following announcements:

1. The electronics recycling event held on June 15, 2013, was a success, collecting 15,471 lbs. of electronic equipment.
2. Greenbuild 2013 will be held in Philadelphia on November 20-22, 2013. Hillary Clinton will be the keynote speaker. For information and to register, go to <http://www.dvgbc.org/greenbuild>.
3. The Delaware Valley Green Schools Symposium will be held July 23. Information is available at <http://daeeonline.org/2013/05/22/delaware-valley-green-schools-symposium/>.

Ms. Mattison reported on the Sustainable Sites Initiative, an interdisciplinary effort to create voluntary national guidelines like LEED for developing sustainable communities. A limited number of pilot projects are now certified or being considered for certification. One of their pilot projects is located in Kennett Square. The Initiative may be the source of model ordinance language to promote sustainability. For more information, go to <http://www.sustainablesites.org/>.

WORKGROUP REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

- A. Radnor Green Team

Mr. Hilbert reported that the Green Team met on Tuesday June 25. EAC members reported on the status of their workgroup projects:

- Streetlights and traffic signals: The streetlight contract runs for two years and will be up at the end of 2013. The group will review the RFP to see if more energy efficiency can be introduced. The conversion of traffic lights to LED is nearly complete and is already reflected in lower electric bills for the Township.
- Green power: Options are being explored, including the possibility of preparing an RFP for seek competitive bids.
- Building lighting and recommissioning: The group is still waiting until the future use of various buildings is determined.
- Green vehicle fleet: The group is exploring the possibility of partnering with Villanova University to apply for a state grant to purchase light duty vehicles. They also anticipate state grants for heavy duty vehicles may be available later in the year; the School District may be a good partner to apply for that funding. The Township has also gathered information on the possibility of fueling vehicles with compressed natural gas.
- Green procurement: A draft policy is near finalization and will be presented to the BOC.

The question about using the Township Building as a drop off location for various items was raised at the Green Team meeting. The matter was discussed.

B. Open Space

Ms. Poulin reported that the Township has received proposals from three consulting firms in response to the RFP issued earlier in the year. The Subcommittee will meet to discuss the proposals on July 17.

C. Audubon Bird Town

Ms. Poulin reported that Bird Town teamed with the Library to sponsor a bird-themed family scavenger hunt on June 21. A number of Wayne businesses participated.

D. Stormwater Advisory Commission

Mr. Walker discussed the status of the work on stormwater issues, having circulated the related documents before the meeting. The Township has a backlog of stormwater related projects, and stormwater problems are not abating. The BOC will need to green light specific projects. To address the financial demands of maintaining and improving the stormwater infrastructure, the Commission has proposed to the BOC an ordinance establishing a stormwater fee (to be paid by all township residents) to cover the cost of stormwater control. The matter will be before the BOC in upcoming meetings.

DISCUSSION OF GOOSE PROBLEM

The BOC has referred the issue of the goose population to both the EAC and the Board of Health. Mr. Hilbert suggested that the EAC should identify the questions it needs to address and determine a process for tackling these issues. He further suggested that the particular focus of the EAC should be on environmental impact on the pond and surrounding areas, the downstream areas, plant diversity, and the welfare of other species. If there are environmental concerns, the EAC should determine what solutions are most effective and environmentally friendly.

Dr. Donato reported on the steps being taken by the Board of Health. They are seeking information from Philadelphia International Airport regarding how they have addressed the goose problem. He also said that geese pose three particular problems:

1. They are migratory and therefore a continually arriving in the Township;
2. Open space attracts geese;
3. Any remedy for the problem will require a sustained effort and is therefore likely to pose cost concerns.

He further noted that the most serious health concerns relate to the playing fields.

Discussion of possible sources of information and an appropriate process followed.

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION/AWARENESS

No report.

LIAISON REPORTS

A. Planning Commission

Mr. Kunda reported that the July 2 meeting was cancelled. The next major meeting is scheduled for August 2, at which time the Commission is likely to return to the question of Planned Institutional Zoning.

B. Board of Health

Dr. Donato reported that the Board has been considering issues raised by the maintenance of backyard chickens and expect to propose a 1-year pilot program for approval by the BOC. They have also been taking steps to bring Radnor's dog, cat, and other animal ordinance as it relates to rabies in line with the rest of the state.

C. Parks and Recreation

Mr. Clark reported that it has been a quiet month. The schedule movie night event was disrupted by thunderstorms.

Consideration of Willows development has been deferred until later in the summer.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no 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.