

**RADNOR TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**

MINUTES

The April meeting of the Radnor Township Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) was called to Order by Josh Hilbert at 6:00 P.M. on April 24, 2014 at the Radnor Township Municipal Building, Police Roll Call Room, 301 Iven Avenue, Wayne, Pennsylvania.

Those present were:

Josh Hilbert, Chairperson
Sloan Walker, Vice Chairperson
Skip Kunda, Planning Commission Representative
Sally Mattison
Daniel Meier
Matthew Holtman

Those not present were:

Anne Poulin
Luke Clark, Parks and Recreation Representative
Stephen Elliot

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Hilbert called the group to order.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 2014 MINUTES

On motion made and seconded, the minutes of the March 27, 2014 EAC meeting were unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Hilbert made the following announcements:

- Chester County Citizens for Climate Protection are giving a presentation on May 14 at 7:00pm entitled "Climate Change and Formal Education: How We Avoid Making Students Our Most Harmful Emissions." The event will take place at the West Chester, PA Borough Hall, 401 East Gay Street, Room 240.
- Radnor Township will hold an electronics recycling event (anything with a plug) May 10 at the Township Municipal Building.
- Radnor Police Department will hold a drug take-back program April 26 10:00am-2:00pa through a partnership with the DEA. The event is aimed at removing unused prescription drugs from residents' homes.
- The Pittsburgh Climate Change Initiative provided an update on their Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions program. They report significant progress, having completed 23 of 35 Community chapter recommendations.

Mr. Walker made the following announcement:

- There is an upcoming Radnor Tree Giveaway event from 9:00am-12:00pm at the Township Building on April 26. 100 trees will be delivered to people who have agreed to plant and take care of them. Volunteers are sought to help with delivery.

Ms. Mattison made the following announcements:

- A Green Your School workshop will be held May 9 for facility managers and other school stakeholders from 10:00am-3:00pm at Associated Builders & Contractors, 430 W. Germantown Pike, East Norriton. Information is available from the Delaware Valley Green Building Council (<http://dvgbc.org/greenschools/events>).

WORKGROUP REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

A. Radnor Green Team

Mr. Hilbert noted that the Township is looking for the EAC's guidance on next steps for the greenhouse gas action plan. EAC members will plan to meet with Melissa Conn on Tuesday morning and propose the green power purchasing plan as a primary priority. There should be a Green Team meeting in May.

B. Sustainability

No updates were given.

C. Open Space

Mr. Kunda discussed the latest meeting of the Open Space committee, which was about creating a network of trails by building connections between existing trails. A video is available on YouTube for review. The trail network idea raises some issues about management of the space by roads and residences; it also brings up some storm water management concerns.

A major presentation on the Biomed building was postponed. A rainwater retention ordinance is under consideration that is likely to be controversial.

D. Audubon Radnor Bird Town

Mr. Hilbert reported on the second annual birdhouse painting event at Wayne Elementary. Representatives from Audubon Radnor Bird Town presented to the students during the event.

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION/AWARENESS

Mr. Hilbert reported on the second annual birdhouse painting event at Wayne Elementary. Representatives from Audubon Radnor Bird Town presented to the students during the event.

LIAISON REPORTS

Mr. Kunda informed the group of the status of the BioMed and Villanova development applications.

No other reports were given.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Kunda reported on the parking lot issue at the township building. The Commissioners discussed it and did raise some concern about the riparian boundary. However, an ordinance exempts township property from many of the storm water regulations and setbacks. It was not known whether said ordinance would come in to play with the parking lot expansion issue.

Ms. Mattison noted that the Commissioners also discussed the library and mentioned replacing its mechanical system, but there was no discussion of LEED or greening the infrastructure. This was reported in the minutes of the March 24 Board of Commissioners meeting. EAC should reach out to the library to offer support and suggestions.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lauren Brubaker and her son Matthew, members of the community, discussed the problem of discarded monofilament line in local creeks and waterways. This carries significant risks to birds and other wildlife as it can entangle them or get caught in their digestive tracts. She suggested an initiative to provide simple monofilament recycling bins made of PVC pipe that could be mounted on a pole. Two counties in Pennsylvania are already doing this.

She demonstrated a prototype that she made using a 10-foot section of 6" diameter PVC pipe, plus cap, elbow and glue. The cost was around \$127 with some pipe left over. Maybe some material could be donated by local merchants.

EAC members asked questions about how the monofilament would be retrieved and recycled. This would require some resources from the Township.

Possible locations include the Willows, the big pond on Eastern, Fenimore Woods, and Sawmill Park (even some garbage cans would help). There is a need to consider aesthetics – color, location, etc. as well as resource requirements and education. Maybe putting signs up would have just as much impact and have a smaller environmental impact. "Did you know? Discarded monofilament kills birds and fish and lasts 600 years." This is also a public safety issue – dogs and children sometimes get hooked with discarded fishhooks or tangled in the line. PVC itself is not very environmentally friendly. The current rationale for not having recycling bins in parks is they get filled up with trash. Could we do a test case and see how much of an issue that is?

Ms. Brubaker was asked to take a few pictures of how these containers are used. She will plan to attend an upcoming meeting to follow up.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Holtman