

**RADNOR TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**

MINUTES

The June meeting of the Radnor Township Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) was called to Order by Josh Hilbert at 6:00 P.M. on June 26, 2014 at the Radnor Township Municipal Building, Radnorshire 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 APRIL 2014 MINUTES

On motion made and seconded, the minutes of the May 22, 2014 EAC meeting were unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Hilbert made the following announcements:

The Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission has awarded \$7 million in funding to various projects under the Transportation Alternatives Program in Bucks, Chester, Montgomery, and Delaware counties. The funds will be used, among other things, to enhance walkability and bike-ability in Wallingford, Swarthmore, and Newtown. Please see <http://www.dvrpc.org> for more details.

Some EAC members are participating in the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's Tree Tender Program, which provides hands-on training in how to plant & care for trees.
<http://phsonline.org/greening/tree-tenders>

Ms. Mattison mentioned the Sustainable Sites Initiative, which is similar to the LEED program but targeted at landscapes. They recently rolled out their SITES v2 rating system intended for landscape practitioners, developers, policy makers, etc. Ms. Mattison suggested that we identify

someone on the Parks board to get familiar with SITES v2 and consider a pilot project.
www.sustainableites.org

WORKGROUP REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

A. Radnor Green Team

There was a discussion of the Radnor Memorial Library renovation project led by Kathy Mulroy, the library's Executive Director. The library is in a very old building (it opened in April 1980). In recent years, the library has evolved into a community center for residents to meet together, share interests, learn and grow. It provides a central, shareable, sustainable resource. The library is a tenant of the Township in that building, and the library Board approached the Township to find out how it could be improved. They jointly hired an architectural firm to identify what could be added or improved. The Township independently contracted with the same firm to look at plumbing, heating, air conditioning, etc. The building still has original 1979 heat pump system. They also looked at ADA compliance.

Ms. Mulroy presented draft floor plans along with design recommendations.

The building has been tested and certified to contain no hazardous materials except a few asbestos-embedded tiles. Not too long ago the library installed LED lighting, which reduced energy bills substantially.

There is competition among several libraries in the area for construction funding. The library will be applying for \$500k grant (which would be matched by the Township). They are looking to raise \$1 million. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$2.8 million. Some money is currently in trust that could be used. The hope is that the Township will handle the HVAC renovation cost. There is a capital campaign starting in the fall.

The project is expected to require 4-6 months for construction, including 2 months when they cannot operate for safety reasons.

LEED certification is not likely to be a possibility given the building's age; it would be very expensive. But the Board is very sensitive to the needs of patrons and plan to use only materials that are non-toxic and won't endanger anyone.

Geothermal was explored but represents an investment with a 30-40-year payback period. There was an energy audit a few years ago, but library staff have not yet seen the results. There is a storm water management system with a cistern and sump pump that has been partially disconnected over time. Ideally would like to reconstitute it. (could it be used as a heat sink?)

Mr. Hilbert suggested the EAC consider the plans and see if there's anything we can suggest in terms of feasible and affordable ideas for making the new construction more environmentally friendly, including cost offset programs, etc. We will keep the discussion open and put together a list of ideas for the Township to look at before the design process proceeds much further.

The next Green Team meeting is scheduled for July 2 at 8:30 and will provide a kickoff to the 2014 season. The Green Team had a good meeting with the Radnor Conservancy and presented its Greenhouse Gas Action Plan. There seems to be shared interest around green power purchasing, which could be developed into a Sustainability Series discussion.

B. Sustainability

No updates were given.

C. Open Space

No updates were given.

D. Audubon Radnor Bird Town

Mr. Meier noted that Ms. Poulin met with township staff about implementing the WREN grant. A location may have been found, but there is limited space for rain garden, so Ms. Poulin will reach out to WREN to assess out how best to approach planning and construction.

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION/AWARENESS

No updates were given.

LIAISON REPORTS

A draft of the Greenways and Open Space committee report was presented to Board of Commissioners this past Monday. There is a committee meeting coming up to review the report.

Mr. Kunda mentioned that there were 2 meetings in June to address the Kooz' Corner replacement project and Ithan and Wayne Elementary schools' requests to build small installations and remove trailers. There was also a special meeting on Ardrossan, with another planned for July 9. At the next meeting Cabrini College will also participate, because they want to add to the Dixon building and modify some of their parking lots.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Elliot sent a draft RFP for Green Power Purchasing to the EAC members for review. The RFP needs EAC members to review in next couple of days with comments. The goal is to get it back to the Township by end of next week. We need a list of accounts as an appendix to clarify which buildings are included. This may raise the total size of the project, which may make it more worthwhile to bidders. We should ask explicitly whether accounts can be added.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Walker mentioned that Mr. Clark is going to talk with parks and rec about the stream cleanup and fishing wire issue next month.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

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