

Abington Township

Environmental Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes for March 14, 2018

Call to Order: 7:30 pm In attendance: Jennifer Sherwood, Sue Myerov, Cakky Evans-Braun, Michele Kaczalek, John Sorrentino, Karin McGarry-Rosen, Jim Webb, and Andrea Soo.

Guests: Shawn Sullivan, Alex Cupo (PennFuture) and Hannah Quinn

Minutes: The February minutes were accepted.

Chairperson's Report: The report was accepted.

Treasurer's Report: The report was accepted.

Committee Reports:

Policy: The report is to be revised and resubmitted.

Programs: The report was accepted.

Engagement: The report was accepted.

Guest Presentation: Alex Cupo, a representative of PennFuture, an environmental advocacy organization, provided an overview of the organization and its programs and priorities. These include climate change, renewable energy, environmental protection and sustainable and engaged communities. Alex also invited EAC members to attend a meeting with State Representative Madeliene Dean's Chief of Staff Kathleen Joyce, on 3/28 2018 at 10:00 am in her office to discuss the protection of the Delaware and Chesapeake Bay Watersheds, methane releases from energy extraction and regulatory reforms. PennFuture is also advocating Governor Wolf for his support for the Delaware River and the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC).

Current Business:

Sustainable Abington/STAR Communities Program: Cakky reported Penn State University – Abington (PSU) intern, Nicole, has been investigating the

Environmental Justice and Energy issues identified in our initial STAR review. Nicole will also meet with the Roslyn Business Association regarding the Go Green Reward Card on March 22. She will develop a Go Green Rewards Card marketing plan.

Cakky mentioned the the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) will be releasing an updated emissions inventory later this year.

PSU-Abington will sponsor a student sustainability competition on April 2 and a Sustainability Fair on April 3. Cakky will be a judge for the completion and requested that any EAC members who are available are welcome to participate.

Transportation Initiatives: Sue forwarded a draft resolution in support of the circuit trail initiative to the Township Manager.

Rain Barrel the Town (RBTT) project: The rain barrel build session is scheduled for April 14. Additional drums need to be picked up.

EAC By-law Review: The revised by-laws were approved.

2017 Annual Report: Jenn plans to submit the Annual Report to the Township by April 4.

Planning for 2018 Activities: A newsletter needs to be prepared which should include the upcoming paper shredding event (Kurt/Andrea), Earth Day cleanups/events as well as the Rain Barrel workshops.

PALTA Conference Planning – April 14, 2018: Sue and Neal will be attending and presenting at the conference.

Open Space Plan Update: Sue is working with Andy Oles and Rita Stevens to apply for a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) to support the update. The grant request is due to DCNR by April 11.

New Business:

BET Development at the Abington YMCA: A second meeting regarding this development is scheduled for March 21 at the Abington Senior High School. Cakky and Sue plan to attend.

ASHS Service Learning Day: The Service Learning Day is scheduled for June 1. Andrea will look into scheduling a clean up day at Hallowell Park on that day.

The meeting adjourned at 9:39 pm

Next Meeting – April 11, 2018