

**Abington Township  
Environmental Advisory Council  
Meeting Minutes for September 12, 2018**

**Call to Order:** 7:30 pm

**Attendance:**

Members: Jennifer Sherwood, Michele Kaczalek, Karin McGarry-Rosen, Cakky Braun-Evans,  
Jim Webb

Associate Members: Andrea Soo, Dave Bell, Neal Gale

Guests: Bill Sabey (Sierra Club member/advocate for Ready for 100 program), George Wrigley  
(Abington Township, Director of Wastewater Utilities), Jessica Tholey (Abington  
Township, Department of Parks and Recreation ), James Bautista and Shelly Grinar-  
Boyd (Penn State – Abington)

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the August 8, 2018 were approved.

**Ready for 100 Presentation** – Bill Sabey provided an overview of the Ready for 100 initiative in which government entities commit to a goal of 100% renewable energy to reduce the impact of carbon emissions on climate change. This initiative is being carried out under the auspices of the Sierra Club. Other issues include making infrastructure improvements to reduce energy consumption as well through green building techniques. Nationwide, there are about 70 cities that have committed to these goals as well as several counties and the State of Hawaii.

**Reports**

**Chairperson's Report** - Accepted

**Treasurer's Report** – Accepted.

**Committee Reports**

- A. Policy Committee Report – No Report.
- B. Program Committee Report – Accepted.
- C. Engagement Report – Accepted

**1. Active Business**

- A. Energy and Sustainability Initiatives:** the STAR program will be merging with the Green Building Council's LEED for Communities program. Cakky recommended that we transition to this new organization. Based on our past efforts under STAR, we would attain the Silver level of certification under this new program. Cakky will investigate the annual

cost of participating in the new program. Cakky also briefed the EAC on the August meeting with the Abington School District in which the ASD discussed the planned green building techniques to be included in the new construction of the planned Science Center. ASD will also continue to support our STAR/LEED for Communities efforts in the coming year.

- B. Rain Barrel the Town (RBTT) project:** The Fall Rain Barrel workshop will be held at Collins Nursery on 9/15 (noon and 2:00 pm). Jenn, Michele and Karin will be there.
- C. Go Green Rewards (GGRC) Program:** Jennifer A'Harrah continues to update the Go Green Rewards program app she has been developing for us. Please review and provide her with feedback.
- D. Summary of August 28 Planning Commission Meeting:** The revised BET proposal for the YMCA property was presented to the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission voted to forward the proposal to the Board of Commissioners for their consideration.
- E. Spotted Lanternfly:** This highly destructive invasive insect has been seen in the Township. Jenn encouraged all EAC members to learn more about its impacts and control options so that we can share that information with the community.

## 2. New Business

- A. MontCo Conservation District's Non-Point Source Pollution Prevention for EACs Event:** Dave Bell will attend on 9/27.
- B. Bucks-Mont EAC Summit on 9/24:** Neal will attend.
- C. Jenkintown Creek Forum on 10/16:** Jenn will attend
- D. AT Paper Shredding Event on 10/20:** Cakky will attend and is looking for some assistance.
- E. Wissahickon Creek Forum on 10/24:**

The meeting adjourned at 9:38 pm

Next Meeting – October 10, 2018