

Abington Township

Environmental Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes for September 13, 2017

Call to Order: 7:30 pm In attendance: Jennifer Sherwood, John Sorrentino, Susan Myerov, Michele Kaczalek, Cakky Evans-Braun, Karin McGarry-Rosen, Andrea Soo and Neal Gale. Guests: Dennis Rowan (Rowan Energy Integration Vehicle 2 Grid), Kurt Wood and Nina Bisbee. A quick round of introductions was conducted.

Presentation by Dennis Rowan: Mr. Rowan provided a presentation on the integration of electric vehicles (EV) for municipalities and its integration with Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) for energy acquisition. Mr. Rowan believes there is an opportunity for saving money and reducing energy use as well as greenhouse gasses by using this approach. He suggests that benchmarking is necessary to project those savings but is confident that EV adoption and integration into the grid would result in economic and environmental benefits.

Minutes: The minutes were accepted with modifications.

Chairperson's Report: The report was accepted.

Treasurer's Report: The report was accepted.

Committee Reports:

Policy: The report was accepted.

Programs: The report was accepted.

Engagement: The report was accepted.

Current Business:

Sustainable Abington/STAR Communities Program - Discussed the status of a intern for the fall semester at the Penn State – Abington (PSU) campus this fall. Student Affairs has not prepared a statement of position for the internship so one will not be in place this fall. The Pepsi Corporation, which has provided PSU with a charitable grant, is looking to leverage its contribution by working with PSU and other local volunteer organizations. Jenn volunteered to reply to Gary Calore at PSU regarding assistance with the EAC rain barrel program, a case study

for the Go Green Rewards card and a community lead abatement effort.

The STAR organization has requested a conference call with the EAC to get an update on our current status under STAR.

Nina Bisbee informed us that Bryn Mawr College recently opted for all its electricity be derived from wind power. They will pay a small premium for this choice.

Rain Barrel the Town (RBTT) project: Next workshop is scheduled for September 16 at Collins Nursery. Karin, Sue, Jenn and John expect to attend.

EAC Signs and T-Shirts: Andrea investigated the cost of 18" by 24" EAC signs for our events. A motion was made to purchase the signs and the motion was approved. Also, we again discussed obtaining new/replacement EAC T-shirts. The discussion included whether to keep the old design or have a simpler one. John will investigate the cost differential of using the existing one versus a new one.

New Business

Fall Tree Planting – Shade Tree Commission (STC): Jenn informed us that the STC will be distributing free trees on October 14 at Grove Park. Tree plantings will take place as follows: November 18 from 9 am to 12 pm at Hallowell Park. Jenn will plant one tree at Jackson Park and the STC will plant one tree at Rubicam Park.

EAC Network Conference Planning: Next year's conference will take place in Malvern, PA on April 14. We discussed the possibility of requesting a presentation on the Paris Accords regarding Climate Change and how communities plan to respond to the potential withdrawal by the United States government.

Montgomery County Planning Commission Award: Jenn informed us that the Abington EAC was selected to receive this award in recognition of our planning efforts in Montgomery County. The award will be presented on November 15 at 4 pm at the Elmwood Park Zoo.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm

Next Meeting – October 11, 2017