

**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 23, 2015 at the Radnor Township Municipal Building, Radnorshire Room, 301 Iven Avenue, Wayne, Pennsylvania.

Those present were:

Josh Hilbert, Chairperson
Skip Kunda, Planning Commission Representative
Sally Mattison
Anne Poulin
Stephen Elliot
Matthew Holtman

Those not present were:

Daniel Meier
Sloan Walker, Vice Chairperson
Luke Clark, Parks and Recreation Representative

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Hilbert called the group to order.

REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion made and seconded, the minutes of the March 26, 2015 EAC meeting were unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Hilbert announced the following events:

May 2 Radnor's *Anything With A Plug* recycling day, 9am-1pm. TVs and monitors are eligible (for a fee). Everything else is free.

Delaware County is conducting another household hazardous waste collection event April 25. Residents can dispose of paint, fertilizers, etc. At the Emergency Services Training Center, 1600 Calcon Hook Road in Darby.

Ms. Mattison announced the following events:

Upper Merion Township EAC & Schuylkill Action Network cleanup event, May 2 in King of Prussia. www.schuylkillscrub.org

Chester Co Citizens for Climate protection is hosting a talk entitled *Risky Business: The Corporate Response to Climate Change* by Dr. David Ross from Bryn Mawr College. May 13th at 7:00pm, Barnaby's of America, 15 South High St., West Chester.

WORKGROUP REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

Radnor Green Team

The Board of Commissioners approved the Wind Power Purchase plan. The Green Team has not yet met since that happened. Hopefully they will meet in May.

WREN Grant

The rain garden will be planted starting at 10:00am Saturday, April 25.

There is also a Township & Conservancy Tree Giveaway at the Township building that same weekend, Saturday and Sunday.

Work Group Reports

Mr. Hilbert recommended that we discuss creating a new Sustainable Parks work group. This will be a new opportunity to focus our efforts. Issues to be discussed will likely involve Ardrossen, the newly acquired Farmers parcel, and the potential replacement of glyphosate (Roundup) with a less toxic alternative.

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION/AWARENESS

Mr. Hilbert reported that at Wayne Elementary School the PTO conducted its 3rd annual birdhouse painting event. Around 30 kids came and painted a birdhouse. Radnor Bird Town (affiliated with the Audubon Society) gave a presentation.

Bird Town and its partners are doing '5 Bees' presentations. Birds, Bees, Butterflies, Bats and Bugs. Go to www.radnorbirdtown.org, look at the schedule and get involved.

The Wayne Elementary PTO's Green Committee is looking for new blood. They don't have a close relationship with committees at Radnor or Ithan, but it's a great opportunity to get involved and get kids into recycling etc.

Mr. Kunda noted some water sense facts that he recently learned. It takes 72 gallons of water to grow a pound of avocados in California, versus 9 for tomatoes. Also, almonds use 10% of water in CA. Regarding single stream recycling: glass is partially seen as a pollutant. There's a move to start charging if there's too much glass in there, so residents should be thoughtful about that.

LIAISON REPORTS

Mr. Kunda reported that in the Planning Commission, preliminary approval was given to both the BioMed and Villanova development plans. The Villanova plan includes new dormitories, a fine arts building, and a parking garage. The vote was unanimous. The BioMed vote was not – it came out 5-2 in favor of approval. There were significant changes to the final plan: from a high point under a mixed-use ordinance, one proposal had 700k sq. feet developed. Issues came up about whether you can count acreage in right-of-way and underground. The language in the ordinance is somewhat ambiguous. The plan now stands at about 475k sq. feet. The development will have an impact on traffic, but they will spend over \$1 million on computerized traffic controls, which

scans multiple sides of an intersection and adjust the light cycles for efficiency. Upper Merion uses this on 202. It almost always creates a 20-30% improvement in traffic flow. On balance, the extra 1000 cars or so shouldn't hurt. They will also extend the trail a bit.

The Parks and Recreation update will be postponed until next month.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Hilbert discussed a proposal to replace the glyphosate product for weed control. Steve Norcini asked a Commissioner to forward data to the EAC on their tests of the 'Avenger' organic citrus rind extract in lieu of glyphosate on the Radnor Trail and at Clem Macrone, Filippone, Bo Connor, and a couple of other parks. Avenger is a non-selective herbicide that is biodegradable, non-staining and non-toxic to humans and animals. This is in line with the Sustainable Parks Policy that was passed two years ago.

A resident contacted Mr. Hilbert about the water quality at Fenimore Woods Park. This is not an urgent matter. He will forward it on to Mr. Clark for review. There is a sonic device that can keep the water clear of algae.

Ms. Mattison asked about the artificial turf question. She wanted to review the official language we sent back to Mr. Bernabei. She raised some additional research and will send it to the group, including something specifically directed to school officials.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Elliott announced that with heavy heart, he will be resigning seat on EAC. He cited a heavy travel schedule for work and family needs.

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