

**Abington Township**  
**Environmental Advisory Council**  
**Meeting Minutes for October 16, 2019**

**Call to Order:** 7:38 pm

**Attendees:**

Members: Cakky Evans (CE), Michele Kaczalek (MK), Karin McGarry-Rosen (KMR), Andrea Soo (AS), Jim Webb (JW)

Associate Members: Neil Gale (NG), Jennifer Sherwood (JSh)

Others Present: Ashley McIlvaine (AM, Communications Manager/Abington Township)

1. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the September 11, 2019 meeting will be approved after additional edits are incorporated.
2. **Reports:**
  - A. Chairperson's Report – No report submitted
  - B. Treasurer's Report – Approved
3. **Committee Reports:**
  - A. Policy – Approved
  - B. Programs – Approved
  - C. Engagement – Approved
4. **Active Business**
  - A. **Sustainable Abington/USGBC LEED for Cities Program:** Membership will be renewed as recertification need not be pursued in 2020 and we may also reflect on integrating LEED for Cities as a tool for the Comprehensive Plan update.
  - B. **Comprehensive Plan (CP) Updates:** The first public meeting for the CP will be held on 11/7 from 6:30-8:30 pm at Edge Hill Fire Co. SM will act as the EAC liaison.
  - C. **Energy Initiatives:**
    - CDP 2019 Cities Disclosure Questionnaire – Nothing to report.
    - Ready for 100 Resolution – CE summarized a spreadsheet outlining energy, transportation, and other sustainability initiatives based on PECO's Solutions Incentives Program and AEEE's Energy Efficiency self-scoring tool. This will help build a framework to assess and integrate sustainability into Township operations and AT's RF100 Energy Transition Plan. PECO's Solutions Summary for Municipalities and Businesses should also be pursued.
    - WWTP Power Efficiency Plan – Nothing to report.
  - D. **Aqua PA and PFAS Contamination:** Nothing to report.
  - E. **Rain Barrel program:** The EAC discussed discontinuing our RB workshop at Briar Bush Nature Center's EarthFest event due to logistical issues associated with the closure of their parking lot for safety.
  - F. **EAC Website Update:** The EAC discussed selected elements of the new EAC website hosted on the township's website, including how we will advertise the GGRC program, RB information, upcoming activities and events, and adding a "Volunteer" button. AM informed EAC that our new abbreviated website URL will be <https://www.abingtonpa.gov/eac>
  - G. **Spotted Lanternfly Strategy:** Nothing to report. AM will provide updates to JW, as needed.
  - H. **Baederwood Residential Properties development:** No new updates.
  - I. **Abington-Jenkintown Connection Project:** No new updates.
5. **New Business**
  - A. **Rydal Elementary School:** An RMCA board member/parent proposed building a co-op/educational garden at Rydal Elementary. JSh reminded the resident that full support from the school would be required along with a funding source.

- B. Winter road salt application:** While it is the policy of the Township not to pre-salt roads prior to a snowstorm, DB documented an instance where it occurred in January 2019. AM noted that the Township does not use brine on its roads.
- C. Semi-Annual EAC Summit:** Warminster EAC will be hosting the Fall Regional Semi-Annual EAC Summit on 10/28 from 7-9 pm at the Five Ponds Gold Course in Warminster, PA.

The meeting adjourned at 09:50 pm  
Next Meeting – November 13, 2019

**Acronym Key:**

AT – Abington Township  
CDP – Carbon Disclosure Project  
CP – Comprehensive Plan  
EAC – Environmental Advisory Council  
LEED – Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design  
PFAS - per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (which includes PFOA)  
Rf100 – Ready for 100  
SE PA – Southeast Pennsylvania  
USDA – U.S. Department of Agriculture  
USGBC – U.S. Green Building Council