

**Abington Township
Environmental Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes for September 9, 2020**

Call to Order: 7:32 pm

Attendees:

Members: Cakky Evans (CE), Michele Kaczalek (MK), Karin McGarry-Rosen (KMR), Sue Myerov (SM), Andrea Soo (AS), John Sorrentino (JSo), Jim Webb (JW)

Associate Members: Jennifer Sherwood (JSh), Kurt Wood (KW)

Others Present: Ashley McIlvaine (AM, AT Communications Manager)

1. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the August 2020 meeting were approved.
2. **Amendments to the Agenda** – None
3. **Reports:**
 - A. Chairperson’s Report – Approved
 - B. Treasurer’s Report – Approved
4. **Committee Reports:**
 - A. Policy – Approved
 - B. Programs – Approved
 - C. Engagement – Approved
5. **Active Business**
 - A. **Sustainable Abington/[USGBC LEED for Cities](#) Program:** AM/CE discussed the plan to develop a team structure prior to AM’s leave-of-absence to handle Sustainable Abington/LfC project duties and communication.
 - B. **Comprehensive Plan Updates:** CE attended the last CP online public meeting on 8/18. The next CP public meeting is scheduled via Zoom on 9/15 from 6-7 pm.
 - C. **Development Plan Reviews:** SM submitted the EAC memo summarizing recommendations for the New Life Church development plan to the Abington Township Planning Commission.
 - D. **Energy Initiatives:**
 - CDP 2019 Cities Disclosure Questionnaire – CE announced that AT’s 2020 CDP Cities/ICLEI Questionnaire was submitted on 8/26/20.
 - Rf100 Updates – Five EAC members and associates are continuing training to strategize how to accomplish the [Township Rf100 Resolution](#). Township Manager, Rich Manfredi, will advise at the municipal level and for the community energy strategic plan.
 - Climate Collaborative of Greater Philadelphia (CCGP) Resolution: An Initiative to Accelerate Effective Climate Actions – Need to determine if resolution can be discussed at the Public Affairs meeting on 9/29/20.
 - PA DEP Local Climate Action Program (LCAP) Opportunity – Matched one Drexel University student to complete a GHG inventory and a Climate Action Plan during Spring 2021 semester.
 - Draft Equity Statement – EAC is compiling resources to develop a statement.
 - Update on LfC Pandemic Pilot Credits and Built Environment Re-Entry Procedures and Resource Recommendations – CE shared draft document summarizing e-mail recommendations to T. McAnaney (AT Emergency Management Administrator) and J. Melchor (Assistant Superintendent for Abington School District) for review.
 - E. **Rain Barrel program:** KMR announced that we have a new online payment option for rain barrel purchases which will be advertised in the next virtual RB workshop on 9/17/20.
6. **New Business:**
 - A. **EAC E-Mail Inbox** – KMR asked how we will continue to manage the Abington EAC e-mail account. With input from EAC members, AS will help support inbox management and distribution.
 - B. **Convening a Municipal Stakeholder Team to Integrate Sustainability and Energy Initiatives** – On 8/22/20, Neal Gale (Associate EAC Member) e-mailed Township Manager, R. Manfredi, to request feedback and guidance on a municipal stakeholder engagement initiative with a proposed timeline for plan execution.
 - C. **EAC Liaison and Communications Protocols during AM’s Leave** – See 5A.

7. **Citizens' Comments** – None to report.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm

Next Meeting – October 14, 2020 ([virtual](#))

Acronym Key:

AT – Abington Township

BOC – Board of Commissioners

CCGP - Climate Collaborative of Greater Philadelphia

CDP – Carbon Disclosure Project

CP – Comprehensive Plan

EAC – Environmental Advisory Council

GHG – Greenhouse gas

ICLEI - International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives

LCAP – Local Climate Action Program

LEED – Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design

LFC&C – LEED for Cities and Communities

RB – Rain barrel

Rf100 – Ready for 100

USGBC – U.S. Green Building Council