

MINUTES FOR THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
MEETING AND GREEN TEAM MEETING

Tuesday, August 28, 2018 - 7:30 pm – Community Center

Members present: Ron Bjorkland, John Lippert, Jane Young, Michael Hartman, Josh Hamlin, Susan Barnett, and Steve Skolnik. **Visitors:** Kathy Bartolomeo, Tom Taylor, Michael Travis, Bill Orleans, Carolyn Davis, Tami Watkins. **Liaisons:** Luisa Robles (staff); Colin Byrd (council liaison).

Excused absences: Absences: Matt Dirksen.

Call to order: 7:34 pm

1. Good bye to Eva Fallon. Thank you for your service!
2. Tami Watkins, Pepco Senior Affairs Specialist, Re: EV charging stations. She works for Pepco's government external affairs. She liaisons Pepco with municipal governments, and legislators in Annapolis. She is here to let Green ACES know that Pepco is seeking letters of support for EV charging stations. Pepco will go to City Council meeting on September 11. The MD Public Service Commission is starting a process to look into issues of the grid, energy distribution, resiliency, impacts of future uses, etc. (PSC 44). Pepco wants help from the Commission to better help their customers. Pepco wants to ask the City to write a letter in support of the Commission to continue to look for the issues, including EV charging stations. EMPOWER Maryland funds might be able to be used to subsidize EV stations for their customers. John shared information about the EVI, connection to Green ACES, and the City and the station that we already have, and the ones that are in the works. We also are plugged in with the VW money. Also shared the LD Parade electrical vehicle fleet. Investor owned utilities need to rethink how business is going to be done in the future. Hearings are the 6th and 7th of September. Letter directed to the Public Service Commission, not Pepco.
Move to write a letter to City Council recommending they send a letter to the PSC supporting looking into PC44. John. Michael seconds. Unanimous support.
3. Update on mosquito issues: From last meeting, The UMD project has started. Greenbelt Nursery found participants to put the traps. He is trying to make an existing commercial trap more effective by using a scent developed by BARC. Will not test for illnesses as it is so expensive. Would like for the City to NOT spray as that would impact his study. Focus on the Tiger Mosquito, active 24 hours per day, so spraying at night might help reduce their populations for a couple of days without harm to the environment (pollinators). Recommended team captains to get people to empty containers to reduce the mosquito population.
4. Updates from **Sustainability Framework / Green Team Circles**.
 - 3.1 **Energy / Solar**. – SHL Rec. Center. Final inspection scheduled, needs to be done by a third party CIP Contractor inspection program needs to hire a private inspector to get the final THEN County receives the final and lets Pepco know that the panels can be turned on. + Solar Farm second reading on Sept 11 (Tuesday) at Council chambers.
Solar home Tour first week in October 6 – Saturday, 11-5 pm
 - 3.2 **Food Systems / Sustainable Landcare**. –
 - 3.3 **Green Building**. -
 - 3.4 **Land Use / Planning / Pathways of Sustainability**. -
 - 3.5 **Transportation**. – Electric Vehicles, stations. Charging at the station did pass, with the caveat that we look into whether Greenbelters can be charged a lower rate, and if we can charge a rate where money is collected for repairs of the machine, and for replacement of the machine in 15-20 years. How many tons of coal are we not burning?
 - 3.6 **Time Bank / Local Economies**. – Next Social, Saturday, November 10, 1:30-4:30 pm.

3.7 Waste Management / Zero Waste –

PGC Zoning re-write update (Tom Taylor). Ben Fischler, Beth LeaMond and David Brosch from UP are also participating in this effort. We are proposing a definition for Community Composting to be included in the re-write. Councilman Byrd participated in a hearing on our behalf. Tom shared our meeting with Mary Lehman, she encouraged us to continue pushing for this. We want to do a grassroots campaign to show support for this issue.

Labor Day, Greening the Festival (Luisa Robles)

3.8 Water / Stream / Stormwater Restoration. –

5. Maggie Cahalan to talk about NOFA course. Carolyn Davis is here to speak on behalf of CHEARS. NOFA organic land care accreditation course in CT. Want to bring the 4 day course (9-5) here to Greenbelt. They would like to for us to sponsor them to help advertise, and for a location (January or Feb, 2019; Monday through Thursday). Desirable location the Community Center, a minimum of 30 people per class. Contact Mike Hunninhake to spread the word. The group recommended for locations the NDC, Greenbelt Community Church, UMD, American Legion. The course is \$300+; target population is landscapers, educators, active community members. The course fee includes instruction, lunch, and membership to NOFA for 1 year.
6. Upcoming events:
 - *Labor Day Festival. Help us make it green by volunteering. August 31 to September 3.
 - *Zero Waste Week. September 3-7
7. For future agendas:
 - a) MSEC goal of reducing fuel usage. City of Hyattsville example of Police EV and inverters in the trunk so their computers can remain on and the vehicle turned off (no idling).
 - b) Green Streets/Complete Streets City of Greenbelt Policy

Adjournment: 9:10 pm