

Allentown

*435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101*



Minutes

Monday, July 8, 2024

5:15 PM

Environmental Advisory Council

Guest Speaker**Old Business**

1: Approval of June Minutes

Attachments: [June2024 - MM](#)

2: EAC Member Update

3: YCAF Update - Kyle

4: Letter Reviews

Attachments: [Letter 1](#)

5: Approval of Lehigh Valley Planning Commission US Environmental Protection Agency Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Letter of Support

Attachments: [Letter of Support](#)

6: Status Updates from leads on goals

Guest Speaker:**City of Allentown Stormwater Team - Jordan Creek x****Liberty Street Runoff**

- Presentation attached

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1oOETnhp3ykZ50lrHMNcqNzutxsXJ9rFI/edit?usp=drive_link&ouid=109189141346252043441&rtpof=true&sd=true

- Question regarding the mosquito population. Difficulties in treatment - may require a state permit, but it is on the city's "radar"
- There is a Lehigh County Vector control program that works to treat standing water.
- Concern was raised regarding the car mechanics in the City who work in the alleyways and dump their waste oil into stormwater drains. Suggestion was made to look at how the Amish in Reading have addressed collecting and

recycling used oil.

- A suggestion was made to increase places to recycle hazardous waste in the city..
 - Potentially ask Ann from Recycling and Solid Waste to attend EAC meeting on more recycling initiatives
- Question was asked about allowing people to swim or wade in the creeks. Not allowed due to liability issues
- Question was asked about how successful has the rain garden at Sumner been? City responded that the plants did not fare well initially but a replanting has been planned.
- Open and overflowing dumpsters on Allen are a serious source of waste into Jordan Creek
 - Bring in Ann to talk about litter at a future meeting

Old Business

1: Approval of June Minutes

Approved

2: EAC Member Update

N/A

3: YCAF Update - Kyle

Potential Event in the works in the future. Applications are due July 17th.

4: Letter Reviews

1. Gannett Fleming regarding Lehigh County Authority - Allentown Division, 30 “ and 36 “
East Side Transmission Main Repairs, City of Allentown, Lehigh County, PA, Act 14
and Acts 67/68/127 Notification.

5: Approval of LVPC CPRG EPA letter of support

Approved

6: Status Updates from leads on goals

1. Neighborhood Cleanup Initiative (Tinku)
 - a. Sacred heart blueprint community initiative has “thrown a wrench” into the plan. It is on hold currently.
2. Shared energy manager (Tinku)
 - a. We got this funding and Wilson engineering has been a great help for the EV pilot program. We have also submitted applications for AFIG and EECBG grants. Grant amount will be a percentage of the vehicle and infrastructure costs, so it will depend on specific vehicles and infrastructure. Mayor’s new EV vehicle is included.
3. Warehouse initiative
 - a. ZONE Allentown comments were officially submitted. Molly wrote a great article on that. EAC should send out the schedule for ZONE allentown events such as the upcoming one at civic theater.
 - b. www.allentownpa.gov/zoneallentown
<<http://www.allentownpa.gov/zoneallentown>>
4. Birdtown (Tinku)
 - a. Veronika is coming up this saturday. Request all members to attend and bring people. Attendance has been disappointing at the birdtown events at the library. Need to increase outreach in order to increase awareness.

5. Communications (Kyle?)

- a. Kyle has continued to build the framework google account for the EAC to serve as a “home base” considering the ever changing city website and the lack of a centralized digital database. EAC minutes and agendas and other files have been organized and saved.
- b. Lauren will be heading out to EAC meetings across the Lehigh Valley to give them an overview of the interactive platform / brainstorm idea. She is also continuing to shepherd the library program. Saturday Veronika will be giving the presentation. Birdtown Banner will be going to Muhlenberg or City Hall.

6. GHG Report initiative (Tinku)

- a. Veronika recently posted the most up to date document to the City website. Unfortunately, it is missing data and includes questionable data. CDP report is being delayed in light of the GHG data issues. Veonika has 2 interns that are focused on cleaning up the GHG data and developing a climate action plan for the City.

7. Community Programs Air Quality

- a. PennFuture and CVPA need to hire someone to replace Maria, and it is likely they will be doing something with this.

8. Safe streets for all Committee (Tinku)

- a. Tinku has been attending all the meetings, and urges people to provide input where they can. Focus is on high injury or fatal crashes. They are doing pop up events in addition to committee meetings to bring in input.
- b.

<https://www.allentownpa.gov/en-us/Government/Departments/Public-Works/Traffic-Planning-Control/Safe-Streets-for-All-SS4A>

New Business

1: Potential COA x City Council Community Engagement Event on Climate Issues

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-Mentioned, on hold.