

Meeting Minutes
Allentown Environmental Advisory Council
November 14, 2022
5:15 PM
City Hall 5th Floor Conference Room or Via Microsoft Teams

Attendance: Dieter Kresky, Holly Edinger, Jennifer Swann, Jon Stanley (4 of 7)
Missing: Tinku Khanwalkar, Maria Ocasio, Julie Thomasas,

Non-EAC members present: Kyle Ropski, Lacey Pasco, Connor Corpora (mayor's office), Jon Zeller, Tim O'Brien

Old Business

- Approval of Minutes from October Meeting
- Review GESA Recommendation White Paper
 - No update from the City (per Jon)
 - Holly will reach out and follow up with Mayor/ Jon
- Review Annual Report
 - Jon made the motion and approved by all.
 - Dieter asked that we add reporting on the new sustainability dashboard
 - Lacey noted that we should add the energy burden report
 - Holly will update and circulate for vote.
- Review of AEAC sustainability dashboard
 - By end of 2023 complete a comprehensive energy audit for all City assets (including vehicles and distributed energy systems)
 - By end of 2023 collect data on residential energy use and residences with high energy burden
 - *Have an intern from Muhlenberg College*
 - Holly will connect Lacey with James
 - *City and EAC did an application for technical assistance*
 - *Dieter asks if there is a stick along with the incentives (?) - should we have a building performance requirement*
 - *Could we use climate corp. or high school grad program as a training ground for building inspectors/ energy evaluators?*
 - Holly will follow up with Vicky about IRA dollars, etc.
 - By end of 2022 design a job description sustainability officer within the Mayor's office.
 - *Work to finalize and propose this to mayor and city council*
 - *Connor can provide a template to Kyle to finalize this*
 - By end of 2023 create a task force to select and prioritize recommendations for city assets from the energy audit considering all grant opportunities and alternative financing mechanisms
 - By end of 2024 create a publicly available energy savings implementation plan for city assets with targets and interim milestones

- By end of 2024 establish policies and programs to reduce energy use at residences with high energy burden
- By end of 2023 complete a climate vulnerability assessment with broad stakeholder input
- Develop a Climate Action Plan Within 12 months of LVPC's completion of the regional climate action plan
- By end of 2023 hire a sustainability officer.
- Update on the Energy Authority/ Green Bank
 - Moving forward outside of the EAC to be a conduit for IRA funds
- Report on Solar Kiln Project (Leo Rooney, Lehigh interns)
 - No update- city lawyer is still stalling
- Lead in community- petition and action
 - Penn Future circulated a petition
 - City staff recommended to take the petition to the county as they can apply for additional funding to help household
- Report by Climate Corp/ Promise Neighborhood
 - No update at this time
- Reports from EAC/Friends leads on remaining goals
 - No update at this time

New Business

- **Plastic bag ban- proposed ordinance**
 - Jennifer talked to Bethlehem EAC and they are addressing the questions from their process. Philadelphia group is coming up to the meeting- Jennifer and Julie will attend.
- **Fair Housing Evaluation- discuss as a 2023 goal**
- **December Meeting/ January Planning Meeting**
 - Yes and we would like the planning meeting in the “cellar”