

Environmental Advisory Council
Minutes for April 10, 2017

Members in Attendance

1. Arundhati Khanwalkar
2. Michael Renneisen

The meeting began at 5:15 PM and ended at 6:55 PM.

1. Mike moved to approve the draft March minutes. Tinku Seconded, and the minutes were duly **APPROVED**.
2. There was a discussion about approving minutes via email in the future. This would allow the minutes to be included with the agenda and notice of EAC meetings on the City calendar. It was agreed that this should be set for EAC action at the May meeting.
3. Tinku described the actions that the City can take as a registered Audubon Bird Town. Lindsay Taylor could provide information about such actions and this could be put on the EAC web site. It was agreed that this should be included for further discussion at the May meeting.
4. There was a discussion about how to find additional EAC members. Tinku noted that there is a council of the presidents of neighborhood organization and perhaps other such groups that could be tapped for EAC members. It was agreed that further brainstorming on this should be done at the May meeting.
5. The following items were discussed as possible agenda items for the June meeting:
 - a. Discussion of presentation to EAC by APHIS regarding work at Muhlenberg Lake
 - b. Discussion of stormwater/green infrastructure initiatives
6. Mike discussed the meeting he arranged with City Center regarding the EAC's bird-strike initiative which took place on April 4, 2017 at 3:00 at 645 Hamilton Street, Allentown, PA. In attendance for the EAC were Mike Renneisen and Marissa Altmann along with Ornithologist and Muhlenberg professor Dr. Daniel Klem. In attendance for City Center were Robert Dilorenzo, Jim Rose, and Spillman Farmer architect Christa Kraftician. The EAC group explained the phenomenon of bird-strikes, damage caused by bird strikes to bird population, and ways City Center could mitigate the damage. City Center stated that it had already purchased glass for its Tower Six project but was committed to retro-fitting glass on all of its existing buildings. We are currently awaiting the surface area which City Center intends to retro-fit so that Dr. Klem can advise on potential methods for retro-fit.
7. Tinku addressed the letter drafted to Mayor Pawlowski regarding improvements to the City's website with respect to environmental content and visibility. Tinku moved that the letter be edited to reflect our appreciation of Jill Trznadel's promise to accommodate EAC's request and proposed that Marissa Altmann, be designated as the lead on this initiative as Marissa has already done research into other municipal

websites. Tinku agreed to make alterations to the letter reflecting same. Mike seconded the motion and it was **APPROVED**.

8. Tinku moved that EAC shift its resources away from publishing articles in the Allentown Adventure publications (as that is not the best fit for EAC efforts at environmental education) and focus instead on the City's new environmental web page. Mike seconded and the motion was **APPROVED**.
9. Tinku noted that with David Keshl's resignation from the EAC, an EAC member needs to be appointed as the point of contact with the Allentown City Council to attend City Council meetings twice a month and report back to the EAC on City Council actions of interest to the EAC and report to City Council on EAC's annual accomplishments each fall. Tinku moved that Mike be the EAC contact. Mike seconded and the motion was **APPROVED**.