

EAC July 9th

Meeting convened at 5:15

In attendance:

Tinku Kahnwalker, Joseph Hoffman, David Melman, Jennifer Swann and Liz Hunt

Guests - (Craig Messinger and Angela DiBuo) from Public Works.

Tinku has checked with Mike Hanlon on the status of appointment for Anthony Hespeth. Mike is looking into it.

Action items are in BOLD

1. Green drinks and storm water
 - Geoff Reese and Rebecca Kennedy have agreed to participate.
 - Topic is 'Storm water, what is being done and how can we help'
 - Knowledgeable participants in the audience that have been here for a while can provide their experience for the discussion
 - Should invite Kerry Reider . He is the new water quality manager (storm water monitoring).
 - **Dave will talk to our State Reps Schweyer and Schlossberg about storm water issues and invite them to green drinks.**
 - Flier -Liz will create a flier in conjunction with sustainability network. She needs the logo and dates and times.
 - Logo was discussed Craig/Angela will ask if we can use/alter the city's logo.
 - Text – facilitated discussion of regional solutions
 - Date/time – 2nd Wednesday of November (14th) 5:30 p.m.

2. Report from Public Works

Angela will be the liaison for Public Works and will meet with Joe Hoffman in advance of the EAC meeting in any month that no Public Works personnel can attend the EAC meeting

Many projects are underway

- Updating the stormwater management plan (SWMP) for presentations to PA DEP. The plan will become part of the NPDES permit.
- Planning to hire an engineer for post-construction monitoring program, expected to be on board by November. Currently there are 4 bidders.
- Currently have a grant award to construct a bioswale (large rain guard that treats the water) along the east side of the cemetery on Albright. The bioswale is not designed yet. Would like to put a rain garden at 6th and Sumner to reduce flooding.
- Joe offered to help Public Works find sources for money for rain gardens and other projects and apply for them. (There was a brief discussion about approaches that build consortiums to provide money for projects.)

Public works has asked city council to approve the proposed credits for storm water management actions such as installation of rain barrels. (The credit program will be implemented starting in 2019. Applications for credit are due by Oct. 1st). Public works would like EAC's help in getting the word out. The EAC will brainstorm

¹ <http://www.mcall.com/news/local/allentown/mc-nws-allentown-stormwater-credits-20180620-story.html>

to generate ideas to promote the program. Public works will provide Joe with promotional materials, Joe will send them to Liz. Public works will print fliers and other promotional material.

3. Iron pigs

- Liz will contact Iron Pigs to see if they are interested in supporting an environmental event. She has already obtained a list of games to see what promotions are already in place where we can dovetail with what is already planned

4. EAC Web page

- There are problems – the links are hard to find, the images and design is not eye-catching
- Liz will meet with Jill Trzandel (who keeps the page) to discuss options.

5. Organizational discussion

- EAC has sufficient members to assign/vote on officers
- A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved for the following positions:
 - Chair - Tinku, Vice chair - Joe, Secretary – Jennifer,
 - Liz will note action items discussed and send them around within a week of each meeting.

6. Approval of the minutes from last month's meeting

- Corrections (spelling and grammar) were provided. **Jennifer will correct and resend**
- Minutes were discussed, amended and approved.

7. Report on parks and recreation (Joe)

- Jordan creek greenway – created to extend Jordon park. Designer has been hired. EAC's role is to insure the quality of the water is maintained or enhanced through storm water monitoring and management of the creek surface.
- Work on Franklin park and Lehigh Canal park will need to wait until next year due to the current budget.

8. Report on planning commission activities (Joe)

- Meeting is tomorrow (7/10). Agenda does not appear to include EAC items.

9. South mountain parcel development (Joe)

- There is an understating developing around the parcel but there is no bid at present. The city is finishing its study plan which should be done next month.

10. City council Liaison (Dave)

- The purpose of the liaison was discussed. A liaison from City council would help clarify issues at our meetings.
- Several council persons (Cynthia Moda, Candida) have been contacted and have declined. Tinku also spoke to Courtney Robinson who was lukewarm about it.
- It was suggested that a better approach may be for us to attend city council meetings

11. Solar resolution (Dave)

- Dave can work with Brian on a simple resolution that states the city's support for solar.
- It was suggested that we work with a city council member on the resolution before we submit it.
- Need to get on city council's agenda – possibly by sending the resolution to Mike Hanlon to share with all city council members in advance

- Once on the agenda we can get public opinion.

12. Meeting place (Dave)

- Muhlenberg college Moyer hall was suggested.
- The hall is brand new filled with the sunlight and beautiful
- The hall is equipped with technology and connected to the internet allowing presentations.

13. Plans for monthly messaging

- August – Bees, butterflies, native plants (Liz)
- September – solar, Tinku will send Sierra club info
- October – Migrations (Joe and Liz) – raptors , possums
- November – storm water, promote green drinks (Tinku)

**14. Contact the sustainable energy fund to confirm that solarize Lehigh valley effort is in fact non profit.
Dave**

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm