

Allentown EAC Minutes
February 8, 2021, 5:15 PM via WebEx

- Members in attendance: Tinku Khanwalkar, Jennifer Swann, Liz Hunt, David Melman, Holly Edinger, Dieter Kretschy (new member)
- Guests: Hannah Chiesa, Jessica Bice, Lacey Pasco, Francesca Jones, Karen El-Chaar, Matthew Tuerk, Sara Elsayed, Maria Ocasio, Alyssa Klinger
- Review and Approval of January Minutes, Motion by H. Edinger, Approved.

Old Business

- Submission of 2020 Accomplishments to City Council: Tinku will present at the next City Council meeting on Feb. 17th.
- Finalize 2021 Goals
 1. Waste Minimization (Dieter)- 1 ton of recyclables out of 75 tons of produced product. Can we focus on waste minimization? Jennifer has some information to share and will work with Dieter on this together. They will talk to Ann Sauerman at City Recycling and Solid Waste dept.
 2. Micro-mobility (Jennifer and Jess)- Jess met with the stakeholders in Allentown and determined that we need an inventory of what we have. Concerns about share the road, too. This will be incorporated in the internship job documentation.
 3. Muhlenberg Internship/Climate Action (Hannah Chiesa, Muhlenberg Intern) Full presentation attached to this document.
 4. Park Spark Project (Jennifer, Alyssa, Alexis)- Looking at doing a prototype on campus to see how it works. Students are building one and testing it.
 5. EAC and Colleges Event (Holly and Tinku)- Holly contacted LVAIC, Bethlehem EAC and LV Alliance for Sustainable Communities (the Alliance). Planning for Earth Day- virtual or in-person? Should Penn Future and Muhlenberg Co-host with us?
 6. Create an internship list of LV sustainability jobs (Holly) – working on it for the Earth Day “event”.
 7. Rain Gardens (Jennifer, Liz)- We did get information from the City on a planned garden at Sumner Ave and we will try to help with maintenance. Lacey from Muhlenberg reviewed the plan on our behalf.
 8. Create a public repository of data based on the Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Community Sustainability Certification (Tinku)- Waiting to hear back from the city on how to house this on the website.
 9. Photograph contest about lantern flies for Earth Day and/or another day. Involve the Iron Pigs for a “stomp contest”. (Liz)

10. Build social media following- FB currently has 143 people following (promote Allentown Vision 2030, education about our trash and recycling programs, invasive species). Build-out to include internships. Can we get marketing intern to help. Talk to city about better posting of the link to FB Page. Consider Creating a QR code for EAC. Use the Neighborhood app/site (Holly)
 11. Revise EAC By-laws to align with final updates to EAC Ordinance No. 14566 which will be voted on by City Council at its 2/17 meeting (Dave)
 12. Sustainable Pennsylvania Communities Certification (Tinku) City intern working with the City Planning and Zoning Department was working on this but we don't have an update.
 13. Sustainable Business Survey and Recognition Program: The questionnaire is ready to send out to businesses... this maybe a fall intern lead. On hold (Tinku)
 14. Get more Council input on EAC activities (Dave)
 15. Invasive Species Events- No update right now. Maybe a Hemlock contest could be run on social media (Jennifer and Holly)
 16. Get a budget for the EAC (Dave) Dave made a motion to request \$1,000 dedicated funding for EAC promotions and events. Liz seconded the motion. Voted on and approved.
 17. Food Waste – Jennifer, Dieter, Holly (2 minutes)- The Lehigh University interns have researched anaerobic digesters which could ultimately be applicable to food waste. Need to also investigate ways to reduce creating the waste in the first place. Need to develop an internship job description for this project.
 18. Preliminary Review of Allentown Zoning Map – Holly and Jennifer (2 minutes) No update on this at this time.
- Reports from EAC Liaisons
 1. Parks and Recreation – Jennifer and Tinku (2 minutes)- no meeting this month
 2. Public Works – Liz (2 minutes)- sent a report to us; no significant updates
 3. City Council – Dave (2 minutes)- no updates
 4. Planning Commission – Holly (2 minutes)- no updates
 5. Bureau of Planning and Zoning – Tinku, Holly and Jennifer (2 minutes) – no meeting this month

New Business