

Meeting Agenda - Environmental Advisory Council

June 10th, 2024 at 5:15pm

City Hall - Council Chambers + Virtually via ZOOM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83865583441?pwd=ZG1HUWxuVXJlQmRtTGZ>

Meeting Passcode: 996786

***Guest Speaker from Iota Communications / Center for Sustainable Innovation Presentation

Old Business

1: Approval of May Minutes

-Approved

2: EAC Member Update

- Peter and Maria officially appointed

- Maria stepping down as chair

- Kyle elected as chair

- Jennifer no longer member, time expired, resigning

3: Vote on Youth Climate Action Fund Review Committee Representative

- Kyle will serve as the representative.

4: Review and vote on Jess's 2024 GHG Inventory for City of Allentown (draft)

- It is more of an interim report rather than a draft. There were issues with PPL providing data as well as inconsistent communications, Veronika will be in talks with PPL to iron out the details. Gas data and other values are lacking as well. Document is approved on the basis that Tinku's suggestions/comments are accepted.

5: Review and vote on AEAC comments / recommendations for ZONE Allentown (draft)

- Approved with the addition of the letterhead that will be voted on towards the end of this meeting.

6: Letter Reviews

1. Technical Deficiency Letter, AERC Recycling Solutions, General Permit Application, Application No. WMGR081-NE005, APS ID#: 1099933, AUTH ID#: 1460046.
2. Approval Letter – Revision, Act 537 Planning, Allentown Metal Works, 3,570 GPD/15 EDUs, DEP Code No: 2-39001276-3, APS ID #1109818; AUTH # 1477471
3. Environmental Covenant, Lehigh Landing – Hat Factory/Albright Steel, eFACTS Primary Facility #620972
4. Technical Deficiency letter – Plan Update Revision, Act 537 Planning, City of Bethlehem Act 537 Special Study, APS ID #1111042, AUTH ID #1479739

7: Status Updates from leads on goals

1. Cleanup initiative- Mary Tomlinson is proceeding in the Jordan Heights neighborhood. The overall initiative is off again due to confusion associated with Sacred Heart's initiatives. Tinku has been in communication with Promise Neighborhood which may be the next step for a new event.
2. Shared energy manager is major success so far. Wilson Engineering has been in touch with Veronica and they are coordinating the pilot EV program. It is moving forward well, DOE has provided additional support too. Applications for more funding have been in the works for several hundred thousand in grant monies we are anticipating to receive.
3. Warehouse Ordinances: This was covered in our approved letter to City Council regarding ZONE Allentown. Jennifer Gomez is the lead from the City. Future presentations and communications regarding this project should go through her.
4. Birdtown updates - Saturday went well and included an interactive game. Next month is with Veronika from the city to speak on Allentown as a birdtown and she will cover the various sustainability efforts we are doing. Also, the actual report is due later in the year. Our summer intern, Lauren House, is also looking into where the bird strike banner created by the National Wildlife Service can be located. Maybe we can involve Peter Saenger, the professor at Muhlenberg whose research has formed the basis for the banner. If not at Muhlenberg, it could potentially be placed in the Allentown Public library.

However, the Library has not taken measures to reduce bird strikes and may be unable to do so due to the design of the building and financial constraints.

5. Communications ETAs - Letterhead voted on and approved. Lauren is looking into an interactive platform for the EACs of the Lehigh Valley to better collaborate.. She will be visiting as many of the EACs as possible to incentivize them to attend a Mid-july brainstorming session. Kyle will send Lauren the excel he worked on.
6. GHG update – interim report by Jessica was discussed earlier with approval of the document for posting if edits by Tinku are incorporated.
7. Maria noted no updates on PFAS initiatives.
8. CDP will not be done this year, but we are in touch with them. Too many issues with data this year. Veronika is also in the midst of proceeding with full assessment of city facilities with assistance from Siemens. City fleet included in the assessment. Grant money will cover much of the costs but data is needed first.
9. Safe Streets for All – Tinku has been attending the steering committee meetings. It is a large effort, fits in with the planning commission's work on their PCAP transportation plan. Money is available from federal and state grants for implementation of measures

New Business:

- 1: New EAC Intern - Lauren
2. Vote on AEAC Letter of Support for LVPCs \$115 million EPA Grant
 - www.lvpc.org/lv-green-transportation
 - Kyle will draft a letter of support on the letterhead to be submitted.
- 4: LED Street Light Concerns?
 - Barbra Malt is a Lehigh professor and birdtown representative who wrote on the issues associated with bluish LED lights. They attract moths and birds, disorienting

them and causing problems. Lights on the warmer end of the spectrum are better (2700-5000 is yellow-daylight). The City has made efforts to combat this by adjusting the brightness when they are asked. We previously supported the transition to LEDs. Potentially add as a goal for the next year with the assistance of a new intern?