
Environmental Advisory Council
Tuesday, December 22, 2015

The regular meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council was held on the above date for the transaction of general business in the Public Works Center.

EAC members present –C. Curran-Myers, J. Slifko, D. Beane

Others present – S. Katzenmoyer

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Curran-Myers called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm. She noted that a quorum was not present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no members of the public present.

BCTV

Mr. Beane reminded all that the show is scheduled for the last Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm and the next date is January 28. He stated that the December taping has taken place and went very well. He stated that he, Ms. Keppen, Ms. Hoag, and Ms. Ignozzi-Shaffer spoke about rain gardens.

Ms. Curran-Myers stated that she appeared as a guest on Mr. Vitale's "Green Building" program to give an update on the recent work of the EAC. She stated that she spoke about rain gardens, alternative energy, riparian buffers, and the Bushong Mill project.

Mr. Beane suggested that the program be retitled. This will be discussed at the January meeting.

There was a discussion about comparing the Copenhagen climate agreement with the one recently reached in Paris.

Mr. Beane suggested that this be the topic of the January program.

RECYCLING UPDATE

Mr. Denbowski was not available to attend the meeting. He will provide an update at the January meeting.

BUSHONG DAM PROJECT

Ms. Katzenmoyer stated that she has received an update from Ms. Hoag. She stated that two firms who responded to the RFP have been interviewed and that the review committee has made a unanimous recommendation. She stated that the firm is now going through the purchasing process and that the contract will need Council approval.

STEEP SLOPE ORDINANCE

Ms. Curran-Myers noted the need to reconvene the subcommittee. She stated that a determination must be made on the best way to handle redevelopment and whether the regulations should be a part of zoning or of subdivision and land development regulations.

Mr. Slifko questioned how this was addressed by other municipalities.

Ms. Katzenmoyer suggested that research be done to see how this is handled in Oregon, Washington and California as they have developed their slopes and are now dealing with landslides and mudslides.

Mr. Beane stated that templates must be adjusted to fit PA State law and local needs.

Ms. Curran-Myers stated that it is surprising that few municipalities in PA address steep slopes.

DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Mr. Slifko stated that Council had its second presentation on the draft Plan.

Ms. Katzenmoyer questioned if the EAC would like additional revisions.

Ms. Curran-Myers stated that the draft is greatly improved. Mr. Beane agreed and stated that he is satisfied that most of the EAC recommendations were included.

Ms. Curran-Myers will draft a letter of thanks for including the EAC's recommendations.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Ms. Curran-Myers distributed a summary of the strategic planning discussions. She noted the need for members to make recommendations for new members of the EAC and also for subcommittee members.

Mr. Beane suggested that there should be standing committees that projects can be referred to as well as ad hoc committees. Ms. Curran-Myers agreed.

ANNUAL REPORT TO COUNCIL

Ms. Curran-Myers stated that the EAC will make its annual report to Council in April or May.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council will be held on Tuesday, January 26 at noon at the Public Works Building.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Shelly Katzenmoyer, CMC
Deputy City Clerk