



CITY COUNCIL

Nominations & Appointments Committee

**Monday, March 7, 2016
Meeting Report**

Attendance: S. Marmarou, J. Slifko

Others Attending: S. Katzenmoyer

The meeting was called to order at 4:25 pm by Mr. Marmarou.

I. Interviews

Pier Ignozzi-Shaffer (reappointment – Environmental Advisory Council)

Mr. Slifko questioned why Ms. Ignozzi-Shaffer was interested in continuing to serve on the EAC. Ms. Ignozzi-Shaffer stated that there are several projects that the EAC is working on that she would like to see completed. She stated that there has been good work done by the EAC and that she is passionate about the environment. She stated that one of the EAC's goals is to build on the rain barrel education and workshops to installation of rain gardens.

Mr. Slifko stated that he has been very impressed by discussions at recent meetings and that there is a good group of people serving on the EAC at this time. Ms. Ignozzi-Shaffer agreed and stated that there is a good balance of knowledge and experience.

Mr. Marmarou questioned if there were problems reaching a quorum. Ms. Ignozzi-Shaffer stated that there is from time to time.

Mr. Slifko and Mr. Marmarou stated that they will try to recruit additional members. Ms. Ignozzi-Shaffer stated that the EAC is also recruiting additional members.

Mr. Marmarou questioned how Council can assist the EAC. Ms. Ignozzi-Shaffer noted Council's support of the EAC's zoning initiatives and the rain barrel and zero waste legislation. Mr. Slifko expressed the belief that the EAC is a great legislative action committee.

Mr. Slifko questioned how the EAC could improve. Ms. Ignozzi-Shaffer stated that it is currently finalizing some strategic planning to guide future projects. She noted the need for the EAC to develop a social media presence (Facebook, logo, etc). She stated that there is space on the City's website for the EAC but that it is not user friendly. She stated that the EAC does not have funding to develop and increase public awareness.

Mr. Slifko stated that the EAC is currently looking to expand participation through subcommittees. Ms. Ignozzi-Shaffer voiced her support of the subcommittees as City volunteers need assistance to complete tasks in a timely manner.

Mr. Slifko questioned the EAC's most significant recent accomplishment. Ms. Ignozzi-Shaffer expressed the belief that it was the Alternative Energy and Riparian Buffer zoning overlays. She stated that it was also great partnering with RACC on the rain barrel workshops. She stated that the EAC has discussed a project that would follow up and map all working rain barrels. She noted her support of a study showing the impact of rain barrels on water run-off.

Mr. Marmarou stated that the Water Authority should also be involved in rain barrels. Ms. Ignozzi-Shaffer stated that the Water Authority is supportive of rain barrels and sponsored and attended rain barrel education sessions.

Mr. Slifko questioned if the EAC had funding. Ms. Ignozzi-Shaffer stated that they have none. She stated that members pay out of pocket when necessary to participate in events. She stated that she would appreciate funding.

Mr. Slifko described a small funds program which had been available through the Community Development Department. Ms. Katzenmoyer expressed the belief that this program is no longer available.

Ms. Ignozzi-Shaffer stated that funding to develop the EAC's presence and to have materials for display at events would be very helpful.

Mr. Slifko suggested that the EAC receive funding from Berks Nature. Ms. Ignozzi-Shaffer expressed the belief that there would be no funds available as they are in the midst of a capital campaign.

Mr. Slifko and Mr. Marmarou noted that the City is fortunate to have Ms. Ignozzi-Shaffer.

The Nominations and Appointments Committee recommends the reappointment of Pier Ignozzi-Shaffer to the Environmental Advisory Council.

Tom Lynam (reappointment – Fire and Building Code Board of Appeals)

Mr. Lynam was not present. Ms. Katzenmoyer will reschedule the interview.

The Nominations and Appointments Committee adjourned at 4:44 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by,
Shelly Katzenmoyer, CMC
Deputy City Clerk