

SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March 14, 2019 MEETING MINUTES

401 East Gay Street, West Chester PA

Committee Members: Barbara Clarke - Chair, Connie McEvoy - Sect'y, Lester Silberman, Ashlie Delshad, Rachel Davis, Jane Clark, Jim Wylie,

Borough Liaison: Kevin Gore, Director of Housing

Alternates: Christiane Iwert-Torres, Gillian Fitzpatrick, Kellie Lynch

I. Chairperson Barbara Clarke called the meeting to order at 6:30PM

- In Attendance: Barbara Clarke, Lester Silberman, Connie McEvoy, Jim Wylie; Kevin Gore, Kellie Lynch, Gillian Fitzpatrick

Community members: Gail Silberman

- Absent: Jane Clark, Ashlie Delshad, Rachel Davis and Christiane Iwert-Torres

II. **Comments**, suggestions, petitions by residents in attendance regarding items on the agenda

- None

III. Introductions of committee and others present

IV. **Approve Jan & Feb minutes** – not enough SAC members present from those meetings to approve – minutes will be reviewed and approved at a future meeting.

V. **Borough Sustainability position update** –

- Kevin: No new info – suggested to send the finalized job description to SAC for review and comment before posting.

Barbara read SAC's approved list of general responsibilities that was forwarded to the Mayor – within context of the Borough's comprehensive plan, including its climate Action Plan and clean Energy Resolution, the new position will be expected to:

- Attend SAC meetings, write and distribute minutes to be approved by the committee.
- Keep the borough's Website SAC page current with the committee's work and accomplishments
- Be the SAC conduit of communication to the appropriate borough department
- Maintain relationships with partners, stakeholders, and citizens groups.
- Lead the development of the energy transition plan engaging stakeholders in the implementation of the plan.
- Look for opportunities for training to keep current on sustainability best practices.

- Kevin: A separated job opening is for an employee to handle trash enforcement/recycling; the borough is about to launch hiring process

VI. **SAC Webpage**

- Update with new committee members – a list of committee members with terms was provided to Kevin and he agreed to update the list
- Jim: the web page includes:
 - 1) Energy dashboard for Chestnut St. garage solar panels; power used in the garage and residual goes into WC grid
 - 2) Climate action plan
 - 3) Sustainability tips –Content pertinent to WC –
 - 4) SAC Sustainability certification process
 - 5) SAC Achievements – mostly from Bluer days
 - 6) Blog place – unfilled but home for it
 - 7) Workshops/events – can be posted here; latest event from Kevin on Climate change expo 3/30
 - Kellie – offer to do workshops...

VII. **Bag Ban implementation update:**

Kevin: Mike Perrone forwarded the solicitor's considerations with Mike's request for SAC to make recommendations on the implementation process/procedure

- SAC Plastic Bag subcommittee review Memo from Kristin Camp, WCB solicitor document
- SAC shall Vote on in April meeting
- Ordinance idea already approved in concept; SAC to help with the ordinance language
- Lester: straws now or later (possibility grandfathered in SAC's recent response)
- Jim: Philadelphia group said that only first class cities can ban; Kevin: home rule charter may negate that;
- Gillian: Plastic bag lobby trying to ban the ban (gov vetoed); large PB manufacturer near Pittsburgh
- Need to get SAC response done soon to be ready for next April SAC meeting

VIII. Barbara Clarke: Bradley Flamm, Sustainability Coord. WCU – join Bike Coalition to go to Baltimore to look into e-scooters:

- Gillian: dangerous – San Diego and San Francisco; helmet issue
- BC – need fact-finding for the next meeting
- Brad looking to get students out of cars – bike share not working – kids don't use bikes;

IX. **Renewable Energy Goals**

- Jim: COG passed resolution to be there by 2050; process to gather info, RFP issued and 9 companies responded with impressive ideas; review committee of area municipal managers; Cadmus Co bubbled to the top, esp. for its ability to deal with the public; next phase other municipalities to ratify and contribute to total cost of \$75K.; WCB to pass it this month likely; Cadmus designed comprehensive plans; serving as model for the area

X. **New items:**

- Jim bike Share-roads; issue about bike lanes, vs. parking,, vs. driving; 2016 Comp. Plan – has goals about making bike-friendly places and off the main drags – Gay, Market, High; Bike boulevards – first one put into Church St. going South; Kevin: 2nd phase approved: Barnard, Union, maybe Darlington, bike paths implemented; missed an opportunity with half-spaces (not big enough for cars, but restaurants took over); Denise Polk survey done in 2011 about attitudes about biking – need to review; Kevin – need to pay attention to sidewalks as well, can be waived.
 - Paoli Pike multi-use trail: Jim: possible linkage between WC & Paoli – keep an eye on this; invite Gagnier to come and present about
 - East and West Goshen have put in SACs

Lester motioned to adjourn; Jim seconded, adjourned at 7:42

Next meeting April 11, 2019.