

MINUTES FOR THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY MEETING
Tuesday, April 23, 2013 – Community Center

Staff liaison: Luisa Robles.

Members present: John Lippert, Matt Dirksen, Michael Hartman, Maggie Cahalan, Konrad Herling

Excused absences: Matt Berres, Eva Fallon, Aaron Marcavitch.

Absences: Kehinde Odebo. Visitors: Bill Orleans

Call to order: 7:35 pm

1. Sustainability Framework: John read to the group an introduction letter for Council we had written a while ago. Comments and corrections were made. Maggie and John modified parts of their sections to be included and changed later by Aaron. Discussion of the format to address Council was had. Details to be arranged by email.
2. MMC meeting was on April 18 in Chevy Chase MD. Delegate Carr was present and gave an overview of environmentally friendly bills that passed, and that failed. Members went around the table talking about their jurisdictions and their success stories.

Outstanding amongst them is Bowie and their recycling rolling cart program. They have seen an increase in recycling tonnage directly related to the large cart distribution of 49% in the fourth quarter of last year and 50% increase for the first quarter of this year, compared to the same quarters before they started putting out the large carts. They put out a little over 20,000 carts and only about 200 people asked them to take them back.

Another achievement worth mentioning is Cheverly's compost bin program. Their goal is to get 25% of single family homes owners to compost. They have sold at a reduced price more than 270 bins and this has reflected in a 10% reduction in tipping fees at the landfill. Bill Orleans mentioned that at the PW budget meeting it was said that the budget for Greenbelt's recycling rollingcart program was to be cut. Discussion ensued as to whereas this is a good move for the City. If the return on investment is reasonable, why not invest in this? Long term, the City will be paying more in tipping fees at the landfill without the recycling rolling carts.

3. Earth Day/Public Works Open House was celebrated on April 20. Members shared their experiences. The Open House was very well attended with many persons asking about energy savings, vampire electricity, recycling and sustainability in general. Work was done at the Three Sisters Garden and at the Edible Trees plot.
4. Announcements (5 minutes)
 - A) Clean Currents – Cam wants to put some effort into this. Maggie questions Green ACES' relationship to Clean Currents and would like to have further discussion of this at our next meeting.
 - B) Electronics Recycling event on April 27.
 - C) Shredding event on May 4.
 - D) Matt Berres is resigning from Green ACES as he is moving away from Greenbelt. He will remain working for GHI so we can still tap on him.
 - E) Konrad mentioned that Council had interviewed a new member for Green ACES who should be coming on board for the next meeting.

Adjournment: 9:05 pm