

MINUTES FOR THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
MEETING

Tuesday, August 28, 2012 – Community Center

Members present: John Lippert, Kehinde Odebo, Maggie Cahalan, Eva Fallon, Matt Dirksen, Michael Hartman, Aaron Marcavitch, Konrad Herling.

Excused absences: Herb Reed, Matt Berres.

Visitors: Jane Young, Bill Orleans, Cary Coppock.

Staff liaison: Luisa Robles.

Call to order: 7:30 pm

1. Round of introductions to welcome our new member Kehinde Odebo.
2. July minutes were accepted.
3. City Council approved to send a letter to Prince George's County Council about their 10-year Solid-Waste Management Plan. We would like to see a focus on Zero waste rather than on shipping our waste elsewhere. John spoke with Mayor Davis and she and Council are working on a one page letter. College Park has already sent a letter to the County Council. John Allender from Bowie is also working on a letter.
Background: The landfill at Upper Marlboro is getting full. It's expected it won't be able to operate anymore in 6 to 10 years. The County is proposing to build a transfer station where our trash would be compacted and shipped elsewhere. Green ACES proposed to Council that they reject that plan, and instead focus on a Zero-Waste Plan where we educate people on recycling, composting, reusing; and perhaps businesses could be more responsible about their packaging and life cycle of their products.
4. City Council supported the Food Forest Project (CHEARS) in their consent agenda.
5. Sustainability Framework. Matt and John met to pull all the latest documents together. They are certain all documents are up to date and current. The Transportation section needs a bit more massaging to better fit the size and format of the other sectors. Aaron could probably take a look now and give us his opinion. Documents are in Dropbox.
6. John attended the City Council worksession for the Roosevelt Center Merchants Association. He mentioned electric vehicle (EV) charging stations as a potential attractor of people from other communities into Greenbelt. Mayor Davis mentioned she has been looking into how to get EV charging station. Luisa mentioned that COG also has an interest in increasing EV capacity in the region. Michael said that the MMC (Maryland Municipal Committees) group might be interested in this as well.
7. John mentioned he came across a company called "Matrix Energy Services Inc." that helps small businesses (100,000 kWh/month or less) with energy efficient retrofits for free. Perhaps this is something the City could look into and retrofit building by building if each qualifies as a small business.
8. Labor Day Festival Organizing:
 - a) Training session is on Thursday, August 30th, 7:30 pm, Public Works Building.
 - b) Luisa started a schedule for staffing the booth and for volunteers. There will be a person from Public Works at the booth at all times.

- c) Green pendants. Jane has about 10 pendants and green non toxic face paint ready for the volunteers.
- d) Incentives for the volunteers: Aaron's organization will donate \$150 we can distribute. The COOP donated a \$25 gift certificate. We will sign Community Service Hour forms and can write letters of recommendation if requested. Eva got the Service Hour form from the web and posted on Drop Box. Jane will fill it out with our info. Luisa will make copies.
- e) Incentives for passers by.: We will raffle a Kill-a-Watt meter for people that stop my our booth.
- f) Incentives for vendors: MOM's bags and energy/H2O conserving items. And we will be rating the vendors with a "Green Star" system. We will ask vendors how they are being green and can include each item as a star. We will post the awards on the vendor booths. Michael commended John for his idea as this solves our problems of grading the booths. Jane, John, Kehinde, Cary, Konrad and Matt D have volunteered to meet on Saturday from 11 am to 12 noon to grade the vendors.
- g) For next year and just in general we could ask the New Deal Café to stop using Styrofoam.

9. Cary Coppock mentioned that the Metro Plan for the 193 corridor is out for comment. The public hearing will be on October 2nd.

10. Cary Coppock also mentioned a state wide incentive to control and clean storm water runoff. Grants are being offered and RFP is out.

Adjournment: 9:05 pm