

AGENDA FOR THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY  
MEETING

Tuesday, February 28, 2012 – Community Center

Staff liaison: Luisa Robles. Members present: John Lippert, Matt Berres, Eva Fallon, Maggie Cahalan, Ed James, Michael Hartman, Jamie Philips, Megan Hughes, Matt Dirksen, Konrad Herling.

Excused absences: Herb Reed, Aaron Marcavitch.

Absences:

Visitors: Jane Young, Bob Snyder, Bill Orleans

Call to order: 7:31 pm

1. Welcome Aaron Marcavitch to Green ACES! – Even though he was not present, the group welcomes him.
2. Potomac River Watershed Cleanup on Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup> 2012. Luisa has registered the Springhill Lake Streambed site for Green ACES and the Springhill Lake Elementary site for the school. Luisa tried to get in touch with Brian from Camp Fire USA but received no response from him nor from any staff person at Camp Fire. Matt Berres will register the site for GHI, but requests Luisa to pick up materials for them.
3. Earth Day event at PW building will take place on April 21<sup>st</sup>.
  - a) John suggested Eva have a table as fundraiser for the Robotics Club and sell the LED lights. Eva talked about the lights they have. They are warm, energy efficient, bright light, dimmable. A 40W-equivalent bulb (consumes 8.5 watts) is \$15 and a 60W-equivalent (consumes 13.5 watts) is \$26.
  - b) Green ACES talked about having the usual informational tables and displays: one display on sustainability, one table with recycling, and one with energy stuff and other things we are promoting.
  - c) Maggie wants a table with information on the Food Forests. They are going to be working on that project as part of Earth Day at the SHL Recreation Center.
  - d) Matt Berres will have information about rain barrels, and perhaps bring a barrel for a demonstration.
  - e) Green ACES wants to invite all the usual watershed (and other green) suspects to have a table. Luisa will send out invitations.
  - f) Luisa shared that the Greenbelt Nursery School wants to have a fund-raising table – Lil Dan Celdran.
4. John Lippert will be presenting at Greenbelt's 75th Anniversary Symposium on April 28<sup>th</sup>. He shared the schedule of events for that weekend and encouraged people to participate. Luisa said it is also electronics recycling day.
5. The City of Hyattsville is hosting the Maryland Multi-City Environmental Boards and Committees meeting. It will be held at the Hyattsville Municipal Center (4310 Gallatin Street, Hyattsville, MD 20781) on April 24, 2012 from 7:30 to 9:30pm; which is our next Green ACES meeting. The group decided to cancel our meeting to attend the one in Hyattsville. Luisa needs to alert the Community Center and the public in general.
6. Earth Hour is on Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup>. Green ACES wants to participate like we did last year. The City can turn as many lights off as possible, and people can gather at the New Deal Café for a candlelight dinner. Michael suggested we send a letter to Terri and propose having, instead of 60

minutes of darkness, 75 minutes in honor of Greenbelt's anniversary. Luisa needs to compose letter and make advertisements for the event.

7. Sustainable Land Care Policy by Lesley Riddle. The group received a copy of the policy and reviewed it over the past month. Comments were sent to John. He compiled everything and composed a letter for Lesley. The majority of the group agrees that the policy is a good one. They had a couple of comments. They would like an appendix with the common names of the different pesticides mentioned through the document. And they made track changes for a bunch of typos and grammatical errors.
8. Douglas Tallamy Presentation on Native Landscaping. You are invited to attend a lecture in person with Dr. Tallamy in Cheverly, Maryland on Tuesday, March 20<sup>th</sup> from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Cafeteria of the Judith P. Hoyer Montessori School, 2300 Belleview Ave., Cheverly, MD, 20785. His award-winning book Bringing Nature Home is must reading for anyone interested in gardening, wildlife and in preserving sustainable environments. Several members want to attend. We will email as the date approaches to carpool.
9. Malia Murray sent an email about GATES providing a public service announcement (PSA) opportunity to advertise events for nonprofits and other organizations. The spots last 30 seconds. The third Saturday of every month (not sure) from 9:30 am to 12 noon, groups can record on a first come first served basis. Green ACES thought they could generate PSAs for Earth Hour (Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup>), Potomac River Watershed Cleanup (Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup>), Public Works Open House/Earth Day (Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup>), and Electronics Recycling (Saturday, April 28).
10. Sustainability framework. Thanks to John Lippert for getting the ball rolling on the sections that needed formatting. And thanks to Megan Hughes for the cookies! Now all the sections are in a format where each team can prioritize action items. For next meeting, each group is to have their items prioritized and uploaded. John and Megan agreed to work on the introduction (there is a draft). Matt Dirksen and Michael want to be in the overall review team.
11. Vlad Tchompalov from WeBike expressed an interest in having a bike-share program in Greenbelt. <http://www.webikedoyou.com/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/weBike/172135979487?sk=wall#!/pages/weBike/172135979487?sk=info>. Perhaps he can come talk to the group. WeBike is different from other bike sharing companies in that their model does not need infrastructure. Bill Orleans commented that at the South Core City Planning meeting it was mentioned that SunTrust is willing to consider a bike share program, and that the City has declined the DC share program because the City is waiting to see what happens with what the State is planning.
12. Reminder: Maggie's and Megan's terms expiring shortly. They both will submit paperwork to get reappointed. Green ACES is now to full capacity!
13. Tea parties efforts to curtail sustainability. Konrad shared an article with the group. Just as an FYI and to be aware.

Adjournment: 9:10 pm