

MINUTES FOR THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
MEETING

Tuesday, June 26, 2012 – Community Center

Staff liaison: Luisa Robles. Members present: John Lippert, Jamie Philips, Eva Fallon, Michael Hartman, Matt Berres, Matt Dirksen.

Excused absences: Maggie Cahalan, Aaron Marcavitch.

Absences: Herb Reed.

Visitors: Jane Young.

Call to order: 7:35 pm

1. May minutes accepted.
2. Labor Day Festival Organizing.
 - John asked if the offer of having a booth at the festival still stands. It would make coordinating with the volunteers easier. Luisa said she would ask.
 - Jane is going to be the liaison between the Labor Day Festival Committee and Green ACES. Next meeting is July 10th (second Tuesday of the month). If anyone has comments please send them to Jane before the meeting.
 - The group would like to reiterate the Styrofoam ban at the festival. We would like to encourage the usage of recyclable materials such as paper plates and cups. If vendors want to use compostable materials they should collect their own compost and haul it away. The City cannot provide that service.
 - Are we giving prizes or grading the vendors on “being green” again? After much deliberation by the group it was decided that yes, some form of acknowledgement will be made for the vendors that are making a real effort. John will check the guidelines from last year. Instead of having gold, silver and bronze levels, perhaps just mention what people are doing, what their green features are, or some other way of categorizing the vendors. Jamie suggested he could go around and showcase the green vendors with GATE (Jamie needs to ask Malia; and Michael suggested asking Linda if it would be okay to promote the green vendors and not mention the others).
 - Articles and announcements need to be made to ask for volunteers and to train them. Places to tap are the Scouts, Roosevelt High School and Greenbelt Middle School.
 - Rosedale brings some trash cans to the event. Would it be possible for us to label some of those cans with recycling symbols and pair them with trash cans? Or can we ask them to bring recycling bins in the same numbers as trash cans?
 - Can we ask the City of Greenbelt’s management to include language in the permits that asks people to think about recycling? Who would be the person to contact about this? David Moran?
 - People that can help during the Festival are: Jamie Phillips, Matt Dirksen, Matt Berres, John Lippert, Michael Hartman and Luisa Robles.
 - This year the volunteers will wear turtles and frogs as informal necklaces to identify our group. They can also wear whatever additional green type things they want. If we get a booth we can keep all the materials there and distribute every day.
3. CHEARS - letter of support for the food forest project. Eva will take the sample letter and make it into a more concise Council Action Request.
4. GATE - opportunity to advertise events for non profits. Jamie has volunteered to write a script to encourage people to recycle at the Labor Day Festival. John also wants to make a spot for the Solar Home Tour to be held the first weekend in October.

5. Drop Box - How we can use it as a tool for Green ACES Sustainability Framework effort? We are at a point where the different groups have made advances in their respective sections, however, there is confusion as to which is the latest version, etc. due to the complications of using the Google site. Matt Dirksen recommends using Drop Box. He will send invitations to the group. For now if John could make sure we have all the latest submissions they can all be put together. Matt D is generating a document with all the information he could find on the Google site. However not all that info is to be part of the framework as some of those documents are the first steps and brainstorming. John mentioned he had written a very long introduction but that after looking at the Temecula plan he will pair down his intro to 3 paragraphs.
6. Luisa told the group that the work to be performed with the EECBG grant was completed. Four locations were upgraded with energy-efficient lights. Three parking lots now have LEDs and the Stream Valley has induction lighting. The three parking lots in addition received PEPCO rebates, the induction lighting project did not. The group was interested to see the new lights. They will check them out after the meeting.
7. Jamie mentioned the Prince George's County Stormwater Retrofit bill has passed committee, but the full Council vote is on July 24th. There are provisions for green roofs, perhaps rain barrels etc. We should look into it and see if we can promote environmentally friendly practices.
8. John shared that Clean Current's picnic is on July 14th (Saturday). Since we won the enrollment contest we are all invited to attend.

Adjournment: 9:05 pm