

Meeting Agenda and Minutes

I. Call to Order, Attendees, and Agenda

- a) Attendees and any new members/interest
 - i) In meeting room: Paul Jacobs, David Grady, Ken Rose, Jane Miluski, Cory Salmon, and Anastasia Erley and Justin Chai (Swarthmore Green Advisors)
 - ii) Joined meeting by Zoom: Bill Silverstein and Kristen Chorney (Catania Engineering)
- b) Approval of the agenda: The agenda was approved as distributed before the meeting.

II. Approval of the Minutes: July 28, 2021 prepared by Ken Rose and distributed

- a) The minutes of the July 28, 2021 meeting were approved as distributed before the meeting.

III. Old Business and Open Issues

- a) Township e-newsletter
 - i) Review topics for September edition
 - ii) Website informational links

Articles for the September Newsletter were discussed under agenda item III.c (composting).

- b) Swarthmore Green Advisors program proposal (Paul and David)

Paul and David participated in the first meeting of the Swarthmore Green Advisors group in August. At this EAC meeting, they introduced Anastasia and Justin who will be working with the NPT EAC in the coming year. Anastasia and Justin described their personal education objectives and why they decided to join the Green Advisors group.

Anastasia is a Swarthmore sophomore in engineering and premed, with a minor in environmental science. Justin is also a Swarthmore sophomore in engineering and economics, with interests in sustainability, renewable energy, and electric vehicles. They reported that there are 18 Green Advisors in the Swarthmore program, with most working on Swarthmore College projects. The Green Advisor program is managed by Swarthmore College's Office of Sustainability.

During the meeting, we discussed how Anastasia and Justin will be able to help us especially by raising awareness to NPT residents on environmental issues. Drafting EAC contributions to the NPT Quarterly Newsletters will be a major focus and Paul and David will be our main EAC contacts going forward. There also appear to be opportunities to use Anastasia and Justin's experience to branch out to WSSD and make connections between NPT and Swarthmore College.

- c) Composting
 - i) Updates on any communications since the last meeting

Since the July meeting, Marty had contacted Mother Compost and learned that they do not operate in the NPT municipality. Paul had contacted Kitchen Harvest and learned that they are enthusiastic about additional clients in NPT. Paul drafted a newsletter article on Kitchen Harvest which was circulated shortly before the meeting. Paul requested that comments be sent after the meeting and he will work with David and Mona to ensure that a composting article is included in the September NPT newsletter.

- d) EAC Reporting to/action by the Commissioners (see zero waste below)

- e) Zero Waste

- i) Any updates from previous meeting.
- ii) County solid waste planning

- f) Plastics bans – Review and discuss status of other communities

- i) Contact with other municipalities and local businesses

Since the July meeting, David reported that he had further contact with the Store Manager of the Media Acme. However, the Regional Store Director, and not the Store Manager, is primarily responsible for environmental projects, and the Store Director was on vacation. Potential environmental projects that have been implemented in some of our neighboring communities include alternatives to disposable plastic bags and electric vehicle recharging stations. Echo Realty, who manages the location where the Acme is located, is also involved in setting up several electric vehicle recharging stations. David will pursue these contacts before the September meeting. Ken agreed to contact the EAC in Upper Providence Township.

- g) Report back on related organizations/events

- i) WSSD
- ii) Solsmart

- (1) Status of draft checklist and next steps

We discussed the status of the solar installation checklist that Paul had drafted for the July meeting. The checklist does not yet cover solar ground-installations.

We agreed that there should be comparable requirements for solar installations between NPT and Swarthmore Borough, perhaps other municipalities as well. David agreed to keep in contact with the Manager of Swarthmore Borough on this issue.

- iii) RF100 Meeting (15th – Monthly).
- iv) Solarize Delco/Montco

It was noted that Haverford Township has recently completed a major solar installation for their municipal operations. David agreed to contact Haverford Township to find out more about their installation and funding mechanisms.

- v) DelCo Sustainability Commission Meetings - Monthly (Alternate Th 6pm or Fri 2pm)
- vi) CRC (Chester Ridley Crum) Watersheds Association – schedule for September meeting
- i) Kristen Chorney, Catania Engineering – presentation on MS4/Pollutant Reduction Plan

Kristen presented an overview of NPT's MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System) permit and NPT's Pollutant Reduction Plan. NPT's plan primarily covers discharges into 4 main streams from lawns, cars, roads, etc. Catania Engineering is NPT's contractor for this issue and prepares the overall plan and mitigation options, interim reports, and communications with the NPT Commissioners and with the PA DEP.

First reporting under this plan was in the 2013-2018 period, with subsequent reporting in the 2018-2023 period. NPT's plan for reducing sediment, like dirt, leaves, and road debris, was approved by the PA DEP in September/October 2020 and a new permit was issued to NPT in January 2021. The plan calls for a 10% reduction in NPT's sediment discharge to streams by 2026. Projects to achieve this reduction include reducing riverbank erosion, constructing rain gardens and basins, using filter bags, and planting trees. David noted that some of these projects may be paid for by the American Rescue Plan over the next two years but more analysis is needed before contemplating work.

Kristen directed us to the NPT webpage on stormwater management for more information:

<http://netherprovidence.org/residents/public-works/stormwater-management/>

II. Discussion Topics

- a) Plan for addressing GHG/Renewable Energy Resolutions
 - i) Radnor Twp report by Practical Energy Solutions
 - ii) Chester County training sessions
 - iii) Three branches?
 - (1) Near term projects
 - (2) Public education
 - (3) Plan writing/tracking
 - iv) Note: Radnor divides into reduce energy consumption, electrification, replace fossil fuels
- b) Zero Waste Implementation
 - (1) Composting – next steps?
 - (2) Trash – Data collection?
 - (3) Recycling

III. New Business

- a) Open Grant Applications (anything that could support composting implementation?)
- b) All Other New Business

Ken asked whether others have completed a PECO energy audit of their homes. Several members had done this and thought that it was worth the out of pocket cost for energy saving ideas and discounts on LED lighting and other energy products. This could potentially be a future newsletter article.

IV. Events/Announcements

a) None

Paul noted that Upper Darby Council passed a Zero Waste Resolution at a recent meeting.

Ken mentioned that the Science History Institute in Old City Philadelphia is opening a new exhibit on September 17 titled "Downstream, Making a Splash". This exhibit will explore more than 200 years of water analysis and water protection and include art, advertisements, films, posters, and photographs that capture efforts to understand water. The museum will also use wooden pipes, scientific instruments, insects, and a 16-foot model of the Delaware River basin built in 1964 to reveal the historical relationships between knowledge, activism, and action.

V. Meeting Adjournment

a) Next Meeting: September 22, 2021