

Meeting Agenda and Minutes

I. Call to Order, Attendees, Agenda, Minutes

a) Attendees and any new members/interest

Attending: Bill Silverstein, Ken Rose, Dave Grady, Mike Krauss, Cory Salmon, Krikor Panossian, Paul Jacobs, Jane Miluski, and Shaina Barnes

Apologies: Alex Morrison, Tina Chen, and Marty Molloy

i) Approval of the **agenda and minutes** (August 24, 2022 prepared by Bill S)

The agenda and minutes of the August meeting were approved as distributed.

II. New Business

a) Recent and Upcoming events

i) Community events schedule

- Report on 8/27 Unity Day

Jane Miluski and Krikor Panossian participated in Unity Day on August 27 and presented an interactive discussion on recycling 'do's and don't's'. The discussion was well received by those participating. Jane, Krikor, and any other interested members were encouraged to present a similar discussion at the NPT Family Fun Day on October 15 and at other similar community gatherings.

Jane and Krikor mentioned that a large, reusable sign would be helpful that could be taken to different events. [something like "Nether Providence Township Environmental Advisory Committee: Refuse-Reuse-Recycle"] Dave and Jane agreed to work together to source such a sign.

- Learn to be a more effective recycler - PA Resource Council at St. John Lower Hall (10/2 at 10:30)
- PA Sustainability Summit - 10/13-10/17 - by PA GreenGov Council - virtual - Attendees will get an inside view of the policies, programs and funding initiatives designed to help advance energy efficiency, climate resiliency and create a more sustainable future for Pennsylvania. [View this email in your browser](#)

The dates of the PA Sustainability Summit were corrected to 10/3-10/7. The website of the PA GreenGov Council is at: <https://www.dgs.pa.gov/greengov/Pages/default.aspx>

- Family Fun Day 10/15 (see above)
- The EAC Network Fall Gathering will take place Saturday October 22 at the Haverford Community and Environmental Center, Haverford, PA. Join fellow environmental advisory council (EAC) members, municipal staff, and others interested in the work of EACs for a full day of training, networking, and fun!

Pricing: Regular: \$65 per person (through October 11) Late: \$85 per person (October 12 and later)

More info: <https://weconservepa.org/event/eac-network-fall-gathering/>

Agenda: <https://weconservepa.org/eac/eac-network-fall-gathering-agenda/>

Registration: <https://weconservepa.org/fall-gathering-registration/>

EAC members were encouraged to participate in the EAC Network Fall Gathering. Those seeking reimbursement of the registration fee should talk to Bill and Dave.

- ii) All Other New Business

III. Old Business and Open Issues (organized per planning document with priority items noted)

Waste Minimization, Recycling, & Disposal (Zero Waste)

- a) Plastic bag ordinance – Report on 9/8 Media EAC meeting and 9/8 Commissioners meeting. Preparation of NPT draft.

Bill attended the September 8 meeting of the Media Borough EAC and reported on the status of their plastic bag ordinance. Two parts of the Media Borough ordinance were discussed, including the potential position of the Nether Providence ordinance: (1) should businesses offer reusable bags to customers for free or at a reduced cost? (2) should a plastic bag ban apply to food banks and food trucks? Dave was asked to explore whether an NPT ordinance could be written in such a way to postpone a decision regarding a reusable bag fee to a later date following implementation of the ordinance. A question was raised whether NPT could afford to provide one free reusable bag to each of the approximately 5,000 households as an incentive on initial rollout of the ordinance.

- b) Delco Municipal Waste Advisory Committee (meets first Thursday at noon). Report on 9/1 meeting and first draft Plan. Next Thurs 10/6 at noon.
- c) NPT ~~Refuse~~ Waste Committee - In formation. No meeting schedule as yet.
- d) Recycling contract - bidding, data feedback, invoicing
- e) Energy Justice Network request to sign on to letter to White House Council on Environmental Quality urging the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to strengthen their standards for waste incinerators, close loopholes that enable incineration, increase disclosure, and otherwise stop promoting waste burning (by 9/30)

The request from the Energy Justice Network was discussed and it was decided not to take action on their request.

Clean, Renewable Energy by 2050

- f) Actionable projects (energy audit, muni garage solar, EV vehicle planning)
 - i) EV/budget status

The NPT budget calls for the next vehicle purchase to be a truck replacement in 2024/5 for the current car used for enforcement purposes. A truck purchase is less likely to be a good fit for an electric vehicle although vehicle technology is changing quickly.

- ii) Green Advisor solar project

Tina and Paul intend to make measurements of the municipal building and the municipal garage for potential solar installations.

- iii) Commissioners and Planning Commission considering solar ordinance

Climate Change Action Plan

- g) Manage storm water plans – any specific action?

Use of Native Plants (and Open Spaces)

- h) Update on PECO tree removal (Moylan and Copples Lane Area and Baltimore Pike)
- i) Bird Town PA: NPT's application has been accepted so that NPT is now the 35th recognized Bird Town in Pennsylvania.
- j) Furness Park invasive species management plan
- k) Consider public education on mosquito spraying (likely part of Bird City, PA)

EAC Connections to Commissioners, Other Organizations, and Municipalities

- l) Bill S attended Media EAC meeting 9/8 (see above)

Education and Outreach to NPT Residents

- m) Swarthmore Green Advisors program update (Paul and David)
- n) NPT newsletter/communications (recent articles on intro to bag bans and recycling do's and don'ts. Next content likely due around 11/30)

I. Meeting Adjournment - Next Meeting: October 26 at 7PM (4th Wednesday at 7)

Dave said that mandatory advertising of the 2023 EAC meetings will begin in the coming weeks. It was agreed that EAC meetings in 2023 would continue to be on the fourth Wednesday of each month starting at 7PM.