

EAC February 2021 Meeting Minutes

Attending

Aaron S. (EAC)
Brandon Ford (Staff)
Peter Wilson (BoC)
Joy Bergey (EAC)
Chris Richter (EAC)
Caren Levin (EAC)
Charlie Karl (EAC)
Desiree Rammon (EAC)
Pat Hynes (EAC)
Chris Weth (EAC)
Melinda Wolff (Visitor)
Patrick Eddis (Visitor)
Susanna (Susie) Ratsavong (Visitor)
Jay Smith (EAC)
Zeta Cross (EAC)

Agenda

Public comment can be submitted in advance by emailing bford@springfieldmontco.org. Please note that public comment submitted by email must be received by 5:00 PM on Feb. 24, 2020

Welcome Members & Guests

Approval of Minutes: Jan. 2021 Meeting Minutes
Old Business & Project Updates
Social Media & Communications Update – Chris R.
Energy Transition Plan Update – Joy B.
Wissahickon Watershed Partnership & Water Quality – Peter W.
Recycling Contract & Composition Study – B. Ford
New Business
Impact of Severe Weather on Renewable Energy Source – Aaron S.
Save the Date: April 10, 2021 - EAC Network Conference
Partner Update/Community Open Forum
Commissioner/Township Update

Notes

- Opening of the meeting, general introductions and request for topics from visitors
- Approved January minutes
- Social Media updates (Chris)
 - Social media followers continues to grow

- 14 posts this month, continuing to grow content. (~164 followers)
 - EAC Township page has been updated to be more like the library page, provide a more clear-cut archive of articles
- Better name than "RF 100" [which = "ETP" = "Renewable Springfield"] to be more clear in communicating what this is, and securing the domain name.
 - EAC motioned, voted and approved expenditure (~\$10/yr) for securing the domain name.
- Energy Transition Plan [ETP] Update (Joy)
 - 3 active groups
 - Transportation group (Desiree) - review of draft document, please take through the weekend. Review in working group and then bring it forward for larger review and board.
 - Bikeability and Walkability - update not able to be presented
 - Municipal Buildings - some additional information to be reviewed if we can participate in a demand response program. PUC approved time of use rate tariff, takes affect in September. Instead of a flat rate, you can have a variable rate.
 - Inquirer Article which discusses this change: <https://www.inquirer.com/business/pennsylvania-peco-default-service-tou-rates-time-of-use-20201204.html>
 - Possible EAC webinar to help educate residents on this.
 - Meeting Schedule: (Informal meetings)
 - Transportation - 1st Wed at 7:30 PM
 - Communications - 3rd Wed at 10:30 AM
 - Municipal Buildings - 4th Thursday at 8:00 PM
 - If you want to join a meeting, contact Joy for Zoom (or Brandon)
- Wissahickon Partnership Update (Peter)
 - Cleanwater alliance - study on the Wissahickon and what were the causes of the impairment.
 - Prime culprit is all the storm drains, which ultimately flow into the Wissahickon.
 - How do we correct this? This is the plan put forth to the EPA.
- PFAS - Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, <https://www.epa.gov/pfas/basic-information-pfas>, are a group of man-made chemicals that includes PFOA, PFOS, GenX, and many other chemicals. PFAS have been manufactured and used in a variety of industries around the globe, including in the United States since the 1940s. PFOA and PFOS have been the most extensively produced and studied of these chemicals. Both chemicals are very persistent in the environment and in the human body – meaning they don't break down and they can accumulate over time. There is evidence that exposure to PFAS can lead to adverse human health effects.
- Township Update
 - 6 month extension of recycling contract
 - Looking at options for changes to recycling program long term
- Review of power issues in Texas
- Save the date : EAC Network Conference on April 10th, get back to Brandon by March 19th.

- Can kitchen scraps be included with the leaf collection bags? No, changes regulations from DEP for managing the compost pile.
- Board/Township Update (Peter/Brandon)
 - Additional grants applied for the Mermaid and Cisco park restoration programs
 - Passed an ordinance to change insurance requirements around abandoned/destroyed residential properties.
 - Finalizing police community relations survey to go out to community, developed by an independent researchers.
 - Used township trucks for sale
 - Township newsletter being finalized, due by mid-March
 - Shade tree commission has solicited BoC for more involvement in planning development review.
 - Coordinating with county on Local Climate Action plan (RCAP) is progressing. Getting an elected official representation on it from each of the regions in the county. Hoping to have a draft report by 2021.
 - Progress being made on Tank Car property. (Update for next meeting)