

Monthly EAC Meeting Minutes – June 23rd 2021, Wed. 7PM

Attending

- Brandon Ford, Staff
- Peter Wilson, Commissioner
- Aaron Stemplewicz
- Stephen Heverin
- Joy Bergey
- Patrick Eddis
- Jeremiah - lot at corner of Stenton and Ivy Hill Road
- Ron Celantano
- Chris Richter
- Cakky Evens
- Melissa Brookes
- Zeta Cross
- Chris Weth
- Pat Hynes

Agenda

- Welcome & Approval of Minutes:
 - Approval of May 2021 Meeting Minutes
- Public Comment Partner Update/Special Presentations: SolarAPP – Ron Celentano
- Old & New Business Social Media & Communications Update – Chris R.
- Renewable Springfield Update – Joy B., Desiree R., Melissa B. * Presentation to the Commissioners Follow-up *
- 2nd Hybrid Police Cruiser
- Regional Climate Action Plan Update – Brandon F.
- 380-402 Haws Lane Discussion – Aaron S. /All Spotted Lanternfly Awareness
- Open Forum/Public Comment Commissioner/Township Update Return to In-person Meetings Starting July 1

Minutes

- Introduction of visitors
 - Ron Celantano - resident for 35+ years, involved in the campus energy plan. Expert in solar.
 - Jeremiah - Hazelwood Residents association in Philly near Ivy Hill Road - PECO project on Stenton and Ivy Hill Road ([link to maps](#))
 - Cakky Evans - Abington Township EAC, Sustainability and Policy Lead, and RF100.
- New Business: Jeremiah - Proposed beautification project on the corner at Ivy and Stenton with PECO. Found a 501(3)c [Mt. Airy community council]. Approaching the township to participate. Spoke to Jose Aggera (sp?) who is public affairs office in PECO. Intiially as a one off but possibly looking to be longer term.
 - Melissa - Friends of Creshiem Trail (FoCT)
 - are looking at this area for future trail plans. Per Brandon, already reached out.
 - Time frame target by end of summer.
 - In Commissioner Standish's Ward, involved in the exchange when this was raised.
 - Good place for a pollinator garden.
 - Need someone to put together plans and estimate.
 - Joy to reach out to Wissahickon trails.
- Motion to write letter based on review of project for Ivy lane project put forward and approved.
- May minutes approved.
- SolarApp presentation by Ron Celentano : Solar permitting, online expedited process. (<https://www.thesolarfoundation.org/solarapp/>) Comes from NREL (National Renewable Energy Laboratory) [<https://solarapp.nrel.gov/>].
 - PA is at National Electric Code 2014 and National Building Code 2015? But this is at national code 2017.
 - Could give them (installer) the option to do it the 'old way' or the new way - all online. Online would get approval right away and still pay the same fees.
 - Ask if Springfield could pilot this? Would be bringing this process online for the township, as we don't have anything online today (for submission). Township would still control the ability for approval or disapproval of the permitting.
 - Clarification : permitting is separate from the interconnection request which goes to PECO.
 - Related to Solsmart community, but not a requirement.

- Renewable Springfield update:
 - Update to board; very receptive. Send a letter from the Board to the County in support of a solar installation in the county.
 - BoC would approve the solar tour in the township. [Weekend of October 2nd and 3rd.]
 - Joy's goal is to get 10 municipalities to join that tour.
 - Melissa - school district updates, meeting with Craig Thorn, school district director of facilities, on the 15th. Hopefully to initiate an ongoing relationship with the district.
 - Melissa - EV Bus update - have not heard back yet. Hoping to get high school students to look at a replacement. School district doesn't have a bus replacement scheduled for another 10 years. Also engaged with La Salle high school to see if they would be interested.
 - Aaron - question back to school, what is their total load? Our township is too small on total load for the municipal campus. To qualify for a demand response program. School district might be able to participate to curb usage during peak load. Providers that would be able to do the assessment. [PJM - <https://www.pjm.com/about-pjm> - our grid operator in the region]
 - Separate topic : Craig Thorn indicated that the new Enfield school with the water bottle fillers saved 7,445 water bottles over the course of the school year (and that wasn't a full school year).
- Hybrid Policy Vehicle update : First hybrid is on the road already. Was able to make the purchase of the 2nd vehicle sooner due to an existing police vehicle accident which caused the vehicle to be scrapped (no one was injured). It has come to us and should be on the road after the July 4th holiday. This will be an extra police vehicle so we'll get the 3rd one in the September time frame.
- Social Media update - Chris - updates and content have been ticking up recently. Also working on website updates to help clarify our presence with content and branding for Renewable Springfield.
- Regional Climate Action Plan Update : Brandon - doing a plan which will help localize future actions. Being able to create a local action plan based on what is being done at a regional level. Next steps to draft and get a first draft to publicize. Includes a steering committee of local elected officials as part of that steering committee. Working up what the targets should be for 2030 and 2050. Goal of 40% reduction by 2030 and 100% by 2050 (draft). The main goal of this is to serve as a toolkit that any community in Montgomery county can take forward to implement as their own local climate action plan. Baseline for the targets is using the 2015 year because DVRPC has a dataset from that year.
 - Cakky is using 45% from their 2010 baseline for the 2030.
- 380-402 Haws Lane Discussion - No formal application on this property. Had an open meeting of the planning department, inviting the developer and the builder to present how they would

want to use the property (installation of 41 townhouse units). Township is awaiting a resubmission of a formal plan.

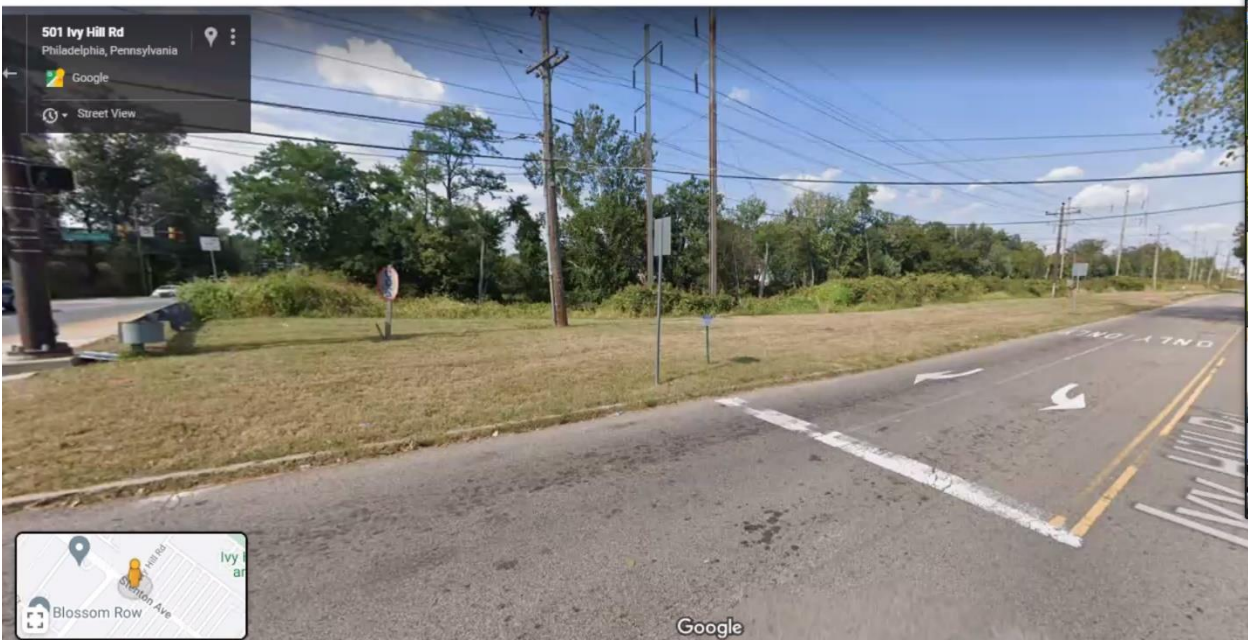
- Chapter 84 section 4 - Shade Tree powers and duties. - <https://ecode360.com/11805799>
- Richard Metz speaking on it; 2 views of residents - some want it in the front, others want it in the back. Halligan is developer, there are ppl in the community are investors in that. Changing the number of houses would impact his \$. Its 5 acres. Community members against this don't want to see the increase in traffic and density.
- Chapter 27 Section 4 - EAC powers and duties - <https://ecode360.com/11780436>
- What role could / should the EAC play in the process? What would differ in our review from what Shade Tree would have?

Actions

- Joy - contact Wisshickon trails to put a design together for a pollinator garden
- Aaron - EAC to submit a letter of support based upon review of the plans to provide to Jeremiah to support the project.
- Brandon - attend w/ planning director the SolarApp webinar and report back to EAC to possibly recommend that.
- Melissa - ask Craig about an plans to roll out water bottle fillers to the other schools in the district.
- Brandon - Provide Cakky with the 2015 information.

From Cakky - Keep it Beautiful Grant - <https://www.keppabeautiful.org/grants-awards/healing-the-planet/>

Area discussed for the Stenton and Ivy Hill project:



380-402 Haws Lane Discussion :

