

# EAC February Minutes

Free Library of Springfield Township - February 25th 2026 - 7 PM

## Attending

- Aaron Stemplewicz, Joy Bergey, Stephen Heverin, Martin Ryan, Tyler Focht, Alex Waldman, Patrick Eddis, Pat DePaul, Brendan May, Adam Thorpe

## Audience

- 5 ppl
- Bud C., Terrie H., Lauren F., Lea R., Corey K.
- Q: Montco Forever Green (Open Space Green) program, and tracking water usage on the campus (EPA water sense)

## Minutes

- Welcome
- Poll audience for topics
- EAC Elections
  - Aaron, Chair
  - Joy, Vice-Chair
  - Stephen, Recording Secretary
  - All nominated and voted for unanimously
- Montgomery County Sustainability Committee - Devi Ramkissoon
  - Created the first county sustainability committee
  - Prev. exec director of Sustainable Business Network of Greater Philadelphia
  - Priorities : County sustainability plan, comprehensive planning. Set objectives and articulate how we reach those objectives. This includes metrics to track year on year on how we are meeting those objectives. Looking at ways for the county to offset losses from federal tax credits going away and building a green bank for the county. Also working with county procurement to bring in sustainability to procurement process. Working with collar counties to bulk buy renewable energy through an MOU, with the goal having 100% green energy in the mix.
  - Has the county looked into demand response programs? Joy will connect Alex w/ Devi about the information that we have.

- Event - Understanding data centers in PA; March 10th - Chester County Technical Highschool - 1/2 day. Will send us the flyer and information for the event.
- Discussion on if from a township planning commission / ordinance perspective if we needed to get ahead of this. Answer from Mike Taylor is that we don't have the land and land prices in the township are too high for being attractive to data centers.
- Devi is working with county planners on draft language for townships and counties to adopt in regard to data centers.
- Joy updates
  - Reducing our municipal operations to net zero.
  - Solar panels will be going onto 2 buildings; Police/Admin and Public Works. This will start shortly after the snow melts. PECO approved the interconnection.
    - Grant via State DEP for 250 hours of engineering time to help w/ through the RFP to proposals.
    - Working with Spotts Brothers as the installer.
    - Will be able to leverage the 30% tax credit from the Biden IRA.
    - Costs should be covered in < 4 years.
    - Applied for the Montco 2040 grant for \$250k towards this, pending approval. This will further reduce the costs to the township.
  - Energy efficiency work - on the audits. Got a grant again for \$50k for another set of audits; \$10k of which is to help upgrade poorly performing HVAC components.
  - Tyler will take over tracking energy usage in the municipal buildings.
    - ASK to EAC: Needs \$200 for training Tyler on the tool to use it and be able to manage the data entry.
    - Motioned and approved no objections
  - Rec Center - Target to have a net zero building for the rec center.
    - DEP Grant for shared energy manager program which we got for using in this and teaching the architects how to design net zero HVAC systems.
  - Fleet - Most police vehicles are hybrid vehicles. Only hybrids are only being purchased to replace police fleet vehicles going forward. Tyler met with Mike and Ian to get improvements to the data being provided for tracking.
- Open Space Subcommittee was approved by the BOC in the EAC.
  - Ben nominated and unanimously approved as chair of the committee.
  - Joy nominated and unanimously approved as vice-chair of the committee
  - 3rd position will be filled by the BoC; advertised like other committee vacancies.
- Native Plant Sale planning
  - May 9th - Sat. before Mothers day. Sold at wholesale cost. Several members of Penn State Extension Master Gardeners will be there. Possibly the pollinator pathway program may be there.
  - Primex is our provider of the plants.
  - How many tables do we get? A: Pat will find that out. -> 12 tables and 6 chairs
  - Aaron has the cashbox and receipt book.
  - Joy and Adam volunteered to help.

- Craig - Shade Tree
  - Planning 2 love our parks days in April. Target ~3 hrs to help
  - April 11th for group A
  - April 15th for group B
  - These workdays are to get the trees ready.
  - Public Works provides the mulch the day before each workday.
  - Looking for volunteers to help with clean-up of the parks. Reaching out to several of the community committees.
  - Will send us flyers to post on FB for volunteers and to advertise the event.
- Idea : shared google drive for the documents?
- We cover the parks and rec and shade tree for overlapping meetings coordination. Need planning commission coverage from us as well.
- Alex - Draft climate action plan
  - Will recirculate the draft plan with change tracking on and have more input from the committee members.
  - Can we put a final date on it? Yes, end of march for review and providing changes.
  - ISO 14092:2026 - standard provides a governance and planning framework for local climate adaptation, improving access to climate finance and accountability.
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  - <https://esgnews.com/iso-launches-global-climate-adaptation-standard-to-strengthen-local-resilience-planning/>
- Township Updates
  - Carson Valley Property - sale of the schoolhouse. Buyer not identified but it is likely someone who is interested in schools. Have been continuing the dialog with the trust to talk with the township before listing the property. BoC has been discussing options for what the township or other community partners could do.
- Pat Hynes - stepping down from the committee.
- No Mow May - running no mow may for about 5 years; up to 100 lawns. Going township wide this year. Will get the link on the township
- Motioned and adjourned.