

West Pikeland Township
Environmental Advisory Council

2/2/2021 Meeting Minutes

Attending: Council Members- Present: John Matthews, Bryan Maher, Janet Parry, Glenn Wenger, Linda Reichert and Donna Switzer (Not present: Warren Fox and Rich Pomeroy).

- 1) Call to order: 7:32 PM
- 2) Agenda was approved
- 3) Minutes from January 5, 2021 were approved.
- 4) No public comment.
- 5) Old business.
 - a) Carbon Emissions (2019 data) report on WPT (Donna)- Use the 2019 data for the baseline.
 1. Common sources of federal greenhouse gas emissions (in general). There are three different scopes:
 - Scope 1: Sources which are owned or controlled by a federal agency: i.e. township vehicles.
 - Scope 2: Energy purchased by the township: i.e. heating oil, gasoline for police vehicles.
 - Scope 3: Sources not owned or directly controlled by the township: i.e. employee commutes, contracted solid waste (methane release from trash).
 2. Donna used the three scopes to calculate WPT Green House Gas Emissions (in tons CO₂e).
 - **Scope 1:** Mobile Combustion 43 % from police cars/mowers/snow removal 8,540 gallons of gasoline for police fleet, 5,000 gallons of gasoline for landscaping/snow removal (educated guess)
 - **Scope 2:** Purchased Electricity 17 % and Stationary Combustion 12 % (fuel oil) 120,357 kilowatt hours purchased from PECO (this covers the township building, Pine Creek, Palmer House, Police Station and Traffic Light)
 - **Scope 3:** Contracted Waste (Landfill) 28 %
272 tons of waste disposed (single stream recycle about the same amount)
23,450 miles traveled by employees (commuting and business travel)
 3. Opportunities to help the Township decrease Greenhouse Gas Emissions
 - Mobile sources (Scope 1) are the biggest source of carbon emissions. Possible solutions- Need a new piece of equipment or vehicle, purchase an electric version. With lawn care, re-write the contract to mow ½ the number of times and mow less area (convert mowed area to natural landscape). John will ask how much we are spending on the lawn care to use for an energy benchmark.
 - Scope 2 Stationary source (fuel oil) possible solution is converting from No. 2 fuel oil to natural gas or propane. Since this would require a different furnace, plan ahead- when a boiler fails, make the transition at that point. Scope 2 purchased electricity possible solutions are purchase energy from renewable sources, update building fixtures/light bulbs/thermostats to energy efficient varieties and transition to installing solar panels.
 - Scope 3 Landfill waste-we need more information on the dumpster and recycling. Donna will ask the township are they filling up the trash dumpster and recycling bins, how often are they having the trash removed (as need basis or regular removal) and how much does it cost to use for a benchmark. It was suggestion d to

find a group of students to help with determining what is going to the landfill and see where the township could save on carbon emissions.

4. Brian would like the raw values for the Township's GHG Emissions included on the pie chart- Donna. It would be beneficial to do this analysis once a year. Donna said once she received all the receipts from the township, it took her 2-3 hours to do the analysis.

b) Stream/Road Event Clean up

1. Glenn and Brian walked Pickering Creek along the Bridge to Bridge trail (on 113). It's very clean and would not need a clean up event; however, there is a 3 mile stretch of 113 in WPT that needs a clean up. They proposed to change the event to a Road Clean-up Event.
2. Glenn followed up with the Keep PA beautiful program via PENNDOT. They will provide all the supplies needed for the event. April 24th will be the date. Meet at the WPT building. There will be an information table for WPT EAC with refreshments and supplies. They are hoping to have at least 3-5 volunteers in a group and one group per mile. Should take 2-3 hours. A morning block of time was suggested.

c) Chester Springs Library Grant Update. Renewable focus Speakers and Projects.

1. Looking for an opening speaker.
2. John has proposed to get Downingtown STEM Academy involved with a summer family/student orientated event. A Renewable energy "science fair" for the students. Invite demonstrations of solar cars and renewable connections.
3. Will need endorsements (i.e. Trout Unlimited). The WPT BOS need to approve the endorsement letter before it is sent out.

d) PRPC Comprehensive Plan- the plan is revisited every 10 years so the Riparian Buffer should be addressed or it is set in stone for 10 years. Glenn needs to send his letter to the WPT Planning Commission. They the Planning Commission should send their recommendations to the WPT BOS. Hopefully the public will have input, but time is running out.

e) Native Species Garden for WPT Building- nothing is happening right now. Not sure who is in charge. They do not want composting at or near the WPT Building.

f) Recycling, Composting, Reduction of Plastics Educational Speakers-

1. Sharon Richardson- Presentation will be held Tuesday, March 23rd at 7:30 PM via Zoom
2. Donna will be a guest speaker on Household Recycling on Tuesday, May 18th at 7:30 PM.
3. Need to advertise. Contact Melissa make a flyer and post to Facebook/Print outs/Community Courier

6) New Business:

a) VPP Grant BOS update- the Grant will happen regardless if WPT signs on. Need three BOS to approve. At the BOS meeting on January 4th, the BOS are very concerned about spending \$4800 investment. Maybe have Donna give them her resume to show that we have qualified council members.

b) DCNR Recreation and Conservation Grants- Apply to these grants for trail maintenance projects in WPT. Removing invasive species and replace with natives could be one project.

c) Do not have an Electronics Recycling Event. Partner with the Chester County since a lot of the materials are considered regulated waste.

d) PECO Energy Star training- Pine creek Park and WPT building should be bundled together. Get read outs and recruit STEM students to gather monthly reports on fossil fuels and water usage, etc. in the report. Bryan will contact Jim W. to find out more info.

e) Newsletter- Need to find out the logistics. We think Melissa will send out a monthly newsletter. Bryan will contact for the details. We need to include in the newsletter the speaker series, joining the VPP grant and the Regional Plan info.

f) Shredding Event- Donna- We are scheduled for another event on June 12th. Bryan will talk with the Township to see if we want to have this event.

7) No Announcements

8) Adjourn 8:42 PM

Action Items:

- 1) Donna- Ask township about the waste containers- how often are they dumped, are they full when emptied and how much does it cost?
- 2) John- Find out how much is the township spending on mowing.
- 3) Donna- Put raw values on the CO2 emission pie chart
- 4) John- Write up endorsement letter for the summer family event at the library. Get it to the BOS for approval.
- 5) Glenn- Get letter for the Comprehensive Plan to the WPT Planning Commission.
- 6) Glenn- Will pass on the speaker information to Melissa so she can disseminate the info to WPT?
- 7) Janet- Will contact Jim W. about the Native Species Garden.
- 8) Bryan- Will contact Jim W. to find out info on the PECO Energy Star Training.
- 9) Bryan- Contact Melissa about the Monthly Newsletter
- 10) Bryan- Ask Township if they want another shredding event on June 12th?