

**Tredyffrin Environmental Advisory Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**23 July 2019**

**Present:** EAC Members Amber Levy, Signe Hansen, Rutger Boerema, Tom Szwech, Doug Anestad, Mary Westervelt; Erin McPherson, Engineering Liaison; Board of Supervisors representative Murph Wysocki.

Guests Anne Murphy, Jim Wylie

Visitors Kristen McCann, Mark and Claire Lewis

**Presentation by Jim Wylie, SE PA Sierra Club Chair,** about the West Chester Council of Governments and how they are working together on their clean energy transition ('Ready for 100') plan. Wylie mentors 'Ready for 100' Teams. Details on progress towards clean energy transition:

- Municipal Gov'ts pick dates to move to renewable energy by specific date (or in stages)
- Twenty communities in this area have passed "Ready for 100" proposals, including Radnor, Haverford, eight in Chester County (Phoenixville Boro, West Chester Boro, Downingtown Boro, Kennet Twp, East Bradford, East Pikeland, Charlestown, Schuylkill Twps). Ten in Montgomery Co.
- Noted that \$137.9 m dollars spent in Tredyffrin on energy (2015 DVRPC data)
- Chester Cty expected growth 28%, Tredyffrin 12% by 2025
- "Do it together" means
  - Educate elected officials: how to improve comprehensive plans, what clean energy is available.
  - Interview large stake-holders
  - Public visioning session

**West Chester Council of Gov'ts (COGs)** originally formed to get a public television station. COG invited proposals for clean-energy transition plans, chose Cadmus among the proposals to complete their analysis. Cost was \$75K for consulting, or \$0.75/resident for 100,000 residents, split among the 6 townships. (Ex. Westtown is paying \$3,000 of the cost). The process to this point has taken about a year.

A finished example of this same sort of plan is Buncombe County surrounding Asheville NC, which finished the process to this point in June. See

<https://www.ashevillenc.gov/department/sustainability/sustainability-initiatives/100-renewable-energy-initiative/>

<https://www.sierraclub.org/press-releases/2017/12/buncombe-county-north-carolina-commits-100-clean-energy>

The COGs will sign up for group purchase of 70 MW green energy at 4.4 cents/ kWh from Adams County (wind energy?)

Promote **Solarize**, which enables residents to collaborate in purchasing solar power together.

Community Solar a proposal, not allowed in PA – bill has good potential in fall. (Community Solar = 15 acres of solar panels, communities purchase shares. Legal in NY state. Not legal in PA.)

See [www.readyFor100.org/chescopa](http://www.readyFor100.org/chescopa)

**Review/approval of 28 May meeting minutes: Minutes NOT approved, as edits were sent less than an hour before this meeting.**

Discussion indicated that the norm is to have paper-copy minutes at the next meeting for approval. Mary still insists that we need to circulate electronic minutes within a week of the meeting, so that 'to do' tasks are explicit.

**Vote to accept draft for revised EAC brochure** (so we can print). Draft accepted. Mary will work towards printing in the absence of Priyanka.

**Vote to accept proposal for Clean Energy Resolution** (so it can go to BoS). Resolution accepted with the change that specific mention of a dollar amount for consulting be changed to read, [Tredyffrin may consider the recommendation of the EAC to to hire an energy planner as set out above.](#)

## Reports

### Stormwater (Mary)

- Formation of Stormwater Task Force (initiated by Valley Creek Watershed Association members Pete Goodman, Anne Murphy, Ray Clarke; to be considered by BoS)
- Anne Murphy outlined Stormwater Task Force proposal updates. Doug Anestad indicated that he was proficient in GIS and could help with mapping the data. It was suggested that complaints to the township and calls for help would be a good source for the data. Survey Monkey could be used as a tool. Right now Steve Burgo has "pins on a map", according to Erin.
- Amber Levy stressed the importance and long-term nature of the Tree Canopy part of the proposal. EAC offered its endorsement of the proposal, subject to some details to be worked out in meetings between BoS members and the Stormwater Task Force initiators.
- Murph Wysocki stressed that the BoS is dealing with the stormwater issue on an emergency basis right now, that is, funding emergency services for water rescues, and looking to help properties which are being catastrophically affected immediately are first priority.
- Education/Outreach. Citizen Claire Lewis suggested that there has been a "sea change in public feeling now" that would make the community much more amenable to hearing about public efforts needed (in private yards etc and also for public funding). Murph agreed that people seemed more in a mood to perhaps consider something like a Stormwater fee/tax.
- Planned meetings among EAC members May - July did not take place.

### Clean energy (Rutger)

**Level 2 Charging Stations: Township did finally send in the grant application.**

**Clean Energy Tour October 19** is in the planning stages. EAC voted to endorse, but not able to apply finances (sponsor).

### New/unfinished business

**Party in the Park**, September 21<sup>st</sup>, 4-7 pm Activities:

- Have brochures ready!
- Promote Solarize: Invite interested people to an October presentation.
- Promote Clean Energy Tour October 19

- Exhibit Electric Cars again
- Stormwater Task Force – hope to have description by Sept. 21. Another Stormwater tour is on hold while the Task Force becomes organized (and the Clean Energy Tour is in the works)
- EAC agreed to raffle a rain barrel.

**Articles due July 12** for the Labor Day edition of the Township Magazine. To write:

- Sol Smart
- Renewable Energy

**Recycling: (Tom)**

Tom brought up the subject of having a Plastic Bag Ordinance in Tredyffrin as West Chester has recently passed one. Murph advised us to speak to township solicitor Pat and also West Chester on how we would achieve such an ordinance.

**Next meeting: September 24**

– Be ready to discuss number of meetings. Proposal: 10 meetings, with no meetings August, December.

**Adjourned: 9:17**