

Mt Lebanon Environmental Sustainability Board
Meeting Minutes

November 8, 2012
7:30 PM
Conference Room D

Attendees:

Brett Aristegui
Andrew Baram
Robert Hedin
Kathleen Hrabovsky
Steve Noorbakhsh
Pam Scott

Absent

Matt Hoover
Elaine Cappucci, School Board Liaison
Kristen Linfante, Commission Liaison
Tom Kelly, Staff Liaison and Public Works Director

Visitors

Abby Lawler Morycz, Mt Lebanon Environmental Team
Suzanne Stamanov
Students from the Duquesne University Graduate Class working with on the Climate Action Plan Update

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Hedin

Approval of October Minutes: the minutes were approved without modification

Public Comment: there was no public comment

School Board Business: no discussion of school board business

ESB Business

- Penn Future maintains several environmental initiatives and has expressed an interest in attending a future ESB meeting.
- Sustainable Pittsburgh has luncheon coming up and ESB is invited
- Website Update: Brett welcomes content that can be posted; \$100 will be needed in January for internet service; Brett offered to have LeboGreen share the Earth Day website.
- Several ESB members attended the Board and Advisory Recognition Dinner. Good camaraderie was had by all.
- No new news about grant proposals
- Scout Program: Girl Scouts distributed recycling information door-to-door in Mt Lebanon. Program appears to have been successful for all involved.

Commission Business

Climate Action Plan Update Project: Barton Kirk provided a report on the result of the project to date.

- Re-energize Pittsburgh needs to reach out to higher income households and needs feedback about how to contact Lebo residents.
- The value of energy audits for Mt Lebanon households was discussed; possible case study of people who have had audits.
- Energy efficiency mortgages discussed: difficult to get; might contact local real estate agents about potential for promoting them.
- Waste reduction strategies were discussed; future consideration of pay-as-you-throw; need to get businesses involved in recycling; backyard composting could be promoted more to residents; High School is considering composting cafeteria wastes
- Outreach was discussed; important role of Mt Lebanon Magazine to create “buzz” about different strategies; involving schools can get children talking with parents about programs; more involvement by high school possible; might be school newspaper to write environmental articles; School-in-the-Parks very successful model to use for involving community and students

Robb Hollow Discussion

- Kelly Fraasch (Ward 5 Commissioner) presented the proposed plan for Robb Hollow Park. The Commission intends to issue bonds to raise money for parks projects and Robb Hollow would receive \$500,000 improvements that include improved access and parking, expansion of the trail network, an outdoor classroom, and development of a dog park. **The composting could be relocated to McNeilly Park where there is enough land to locate the full composting facility.** Use of the McNeilly property requires changes in deed restriction which might be accomplished by making changes in restrictions on Robb Hollow properties. There was discussion by ESB and support for the proposed improvements to Robb Hollow Park was unanimous. The need to assure continuation of the composting activities was emphasized. Plans were made to attend the November 13 Commission meeting and express the ESB support.

New Business: no new business

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 10 PM.