

Town of Chevy Chase Climate Protection Committee
Minutes October 23, 2007

Present: Judy McGuire (Chair), Andy Knauss, Betsy Johnson, Bruce Russell, Lynn Lichtenstein, Rob Enelow (Town Council liaison)

1. Update on Climate Protection Pledge to reduce greenhouse gas emissions --
Judy

The pledge will be published in the November Forecast with a separate post card for the pledge and a sheet that can be posted on the refrigerator. CO2 savings of pledge actions will be on the Town website. The Town will give out reusable grocery bags as a reward for filling out the pledge.

2. Compact Fluorescent Light bulbs – Andy, Judy, Rob

To date, 275 CFLs have been give out to Town residents and a list kept of the addresses of recipients. CFLs contain some mercury and should be disposed of as toxic waste.

The Town will set up a receptacle for the disposal of used CFLs.

3. Land Use Committee Interim Report and Meeting--Judy

Judy, Christine, Carla, and Rob attended the Sept. 27 meeting on the Report. It was unclear whether the proposed building standards will include LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) standards or Energy Star standards or neither.

Judy will prepare a detailed statement for the Land Use Committee.

4. Low Carbon Diet—how to decrease carbon emissions--Betsy

This is a program to decrease household CO2 emissions. The program is contained in a booklet designed to be used by groups. The booklet could be given to those signing the climate pledge followed by group meetings either once a week or once a month for four meetings. Betsy and others will phone pledge signers to determine interest in a peer support group. CPC may have funds in its budget to pay for booklets which cost \$12.95 each. CPC may write up the program in an article.

Rob will check on CPC funds available for booklets with Dian Seidel or Andy Silverstone.

5. Greenhouse Gas Assessment – Survey returns -- Judy

There are 92 hard copy returns plus some electronic returns.

Judy will have a reminder sent out in the Forecast and also by the Town listserv. Rob promised to make sure it has been sent out on the town listserv (this was done 10/24).

6. Developments in Bethesda—Judy

These include development of lots 31 and 31A at southwest corner of Woodmont and Bethesda Aves. for condos and underground parking; development of northeast corner of Woodmont and Bethesda Aves. (Thyme Square); location of Walter Reed Hospital at Bethesda Naval Station; and offer by developer for 30 homes in the Sacks neighborhood in downtown Bethesda. CPC agreed to send statement to County Council concerning all development concerning lack of coordination of County environmental efforts and failure of new buildings and development to accommodate environmental concerns.

Judy will draft statement for submission through Town Council to the appropriate County authorities.

7. Forecast Articles

November—article on the pledge

December—report on light bulbs to be written by mid November—**Andy,**

Judy, and Bruce

January -- Recycling—possibly **Carla**

Other

Hometown climate heroes—Andy and Judy have names .

Survey—when returns are back

Global warming legislation – **Betsy**

8. Briefing from County officials on what they are doing about climate change.

Judy suggested that we have an open forum to ask county officials what they are doing about climate change. All the Chevy Chases would be invited to participate. She will look into this further.

9. Suggestions

Betsy suggested that we invite persons whom she will recommend to give a talk on gardening and global warming. It was agreed that this would be a good idea and Betsy will see if it's possible to schedule it for February 2008.

Bruce suggested that we request that the Town plant Rosemary Circle in wildflowers, thereby saving the energy of mowing and adding color, interest and educational value to the circle. Bruce will do a little more research on the topic and draft a request.

10. Composting

Bruce reported on progress with promoting composting. Progress has been slow but steady. There is a problem with residents showing up when they promised to. Bruce and Elizabeth Mumford will continue to respond to requests.