

Town of Chevy Chase Climate Protection Committee
Minutes September 17, 2007

Present: Dian Seidel (Acting Chair), Andy Knauss, Betsy Johnson, Christine Real de Azua, Stuart Sessions, Lynn Lichtenstein, Rob Enelow (Council liaison), Dave Walton (Town staff)

1. Climate Protection Pledge to reduce greenhouse gas emissions -- Dian

The pledge consists of tasks residents can perform to reduce carbon emissions. Council approved publishing the pledge in the October Forecast, subject to some revision. Participating households will get a sticker. The pledge fulfills the Town's responsibility under the Mayors' Agreement to participate in a national conversation concerning emissions October 4. To get press for the pledge, contact Mier Wolf. There may be a follow-up event consisting of a meeting in October or November. [Note: On 9/19/07 Judy McGuire withdrew the pledge from the October Forecast for further consultation; it will be in the November Forecast.]

2. Greenhouse Gas Assessment -- Stuart

The Council has approved sending out the survey of residents that will provide the data needed for the assessment. It will be sent out in a special mailing with advance notice via the listserv. As an added incentive to fill out the survey, those who respond will be given a mini-energy audit based on the survey responses they provide. Can hire a new assistant with remaining funds from Council.

3. Composting -- Bruce Russell and Elizabeth Mumford

This effort will concentrate on working with people in their own yards rather than having a demonstration compost pile in a Town park. Bruce will write an October Forecast article on what to do with October leaves.

4. Land Use Committee Standards

The report from the Land Use Committee on standards does not contain anything related to energy efficiency. The Climate Protection Committee should be represented at meetings of the Land Use Committee and also express its views in writing to the LUC.

Christine will represent the Climate Protection Committee at the Sept. 27 LUC meeting.

5. Light bulbs – Andy

All the light bulb volunteers said they had good reception from Town residents over the summer and that they are doing distribution efforts on their own.

6. Coordination with Town staff

The Committee thanked Dave Walton and other Town staff for their help. Also explained Town's role in environmental efforts as that of a small residential community that can address lifestyle changes.

7. Nov. 15 Forecast Article

The article can be a reminder of the assessment, announce a follow-up to the pledge, and/or address signing up to lobby for energy legislation. October 15 is deadline for November article. [See Note under number 1 above.]

8. Recycling

Residents appear to be unaware of restrictions on what can be recycled, especially the fact that number 1 and 2 plastics must be bottles or jars. The Committee may want to address this issue at the next meeting.

Next meeting: Tuesday, October 23, 2007, 7:30 p.m. Judy McGuire will reassume the Chairmanship at that time.