

Minutes

Climate and Environment Committee
September 27, 2011, 7:30-9:00 PM

Attending:

Coralee Hoffman
John Kolakowski
David Lublin, Town Council Liaison
Judith McGuire, Chair
Eric Niiler
Suzanne Parmet
Stuart Sessions

1. Introductions were made
2. Expectations of Committee are that they should strive to attend all meetings, to provide responses to emails, and to actively work on one committee project or activity each year.
3. Secretary. The secretary will be a rotation position
Action: Judy will send around a sign up sheet for meetings. Eric will scribe the October meeting.
4. The committee decided to meet at 7:30 PM on the fourth Tuesday of the month. Snacks or desserts will be served.
5. The description and missions statement were revised as follows:

Climate and Environment Committee

The Climate and Environment Committee exists to help the Town of Chevy Chase become a positive force in promoting a healthy environment, mitigating human-influenced climate change being a good steward of its natural resources. Toward this end the Committee develops and sponsors programs to encourage energy and environmental conservation and promotes environmentally friendly Town government policies and practices.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Climate and Environment Committee is to inspire and facilitate energy conservation and environmental stewardship by the Town and its residents through education, government policies, and incentives.

Action: Eric and John will review the Town's website, particularly the old Environment and Climate Protection websites and Shades of Green, and make suggestions about creating and populating a combined Climate and Environment page.

6. Suzanne Parmet made a presentation on the activities of University Park, MD where she is an "Energy Coach". In particular she drew our attention to signs people put in front of their houses to show that they have had an audit and done

the energy upgrades. The response was generally favorable but some concerns were expressed about how to respond to the demand created.

Action: Eric and John, in consultation with Coralee, will consider how the complementary information (sources of approved auditors and contractors, links to online information) might be incorporated into the new website. Suzanne will make a list of the functions that should be performed by an agent (the committee, a staff member, or a volunteer) to complement the signs.

7. Stuart made a presentation on the midterm evaluation. No decision was made about how much effort should be put into getting quantified intermediate outcomes versus qualitative process indicators.

Action: Stuart will send to all committee members an electronic version of the document he handed out and committee members will provide comments. Stuart will prepare two budget proposals to discuss at the October meeting, one would be a best effort budget and the other would be a de minimus budget.

8. Eric handed out the “Bicycle Heat Map” for Montgomery County showing where the demand for bicycle infrastructure is the strongest. It would appear that the Bethesda area is quite “hot”. No action is required on this item.

The next meeting will be October 25.