

**Town of Chevy Chase
Environment Committee Meeting Minutes
April 2, 2009**

The meeting was held at 7:00 pm on April 2, 2009 in the Town Hall. The following committee members were present:

Vicky Taplin, Chair
Rob Enelow, Council Liaison
Sam Black
Michael Payne
Joan Rood
Jean Shorett
Sally Kelly
Ruth Fort

Guest attendees: Ketch Ryan and Kirk Renaud

The following summarizes the discussion:

- I. Ketch Ryan and Kirk Renaud, from Common Cents Solar, presented their concept for the Jane Lawton Environmental Center. Common Cents Solar is developing and pursuing a project to put solar panels and a wind turbine on the roof of the Leland Community Center, which will soon be dedicated in the memory of Jane Lawton. The roof of the center would be used as an energy source for the recreational center and the Town office. Inside the center, Common Cents Solar is proposing to have an interactive Energy Display System for community members to see what is happening on the roof and how the energy is produced. The display system would be part of an interactive education kiosk, which would contain all kinds of information about the environment, including information posted by the Environment Committee and the Climate Protection Committee. The system would be used as an educational tool for children. The total project, consisting of the energy-saving equipment on the roof coupled with the information kiosk inside, would serve as a tangible and vibrant memorial to Jane Lawton, encompassing many of the community values that she espoused. The project would be funded through a public/private partnership, with individual investors who live in the Town, and a Town government contribution. After Common Cents Solar concluded its presentation, the Committee discussed various elements of the proposal. It was the Committee consensus that Common Cents Solar needs to work through more of the program details in order to gather more support from the Town. At the conclusion of the discussion, the following motion was made, seconded and passed by the Committee:

“The Environment Committee endorses the general concept of the Lawton Environmental Center, as presented by Common Cents Solar. Before making any recommendations on funding for the project, the Environment

Committee requests that the Town Council conduct due diligence on the proposal, in areas including but not limited to the financial, legal, maintenance, and County participation aspects, and present the fully developed and detailed proposal to residents in a public meeting, followed by a public hearing.”

- II. Announcements- Vicky Taplin informed Committee members of upcoming events. The next Environment Committee meeting will be held on May 7th, at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall. On April 21st, the Environment Committee will be co-hosting with the Climate Protection Committee a presentation by Meditch/Murphey Architects on a net-zero energy house that they have designed. On May 5th the Town holds its annual meeting. The Volunteer Appreciation/Recruitment event will be held on June 6th. For these meetings, each Town committee has been asked to prepare a short handout explaining the Committee’s goals and accomplishments for these meetings, and invited to bring any other handouts it wishes to distribute. Vicky asked that Committee members please let her know if there are any particular items that they want included as handouts.
- III. Noise Control Initiative Update- Vicky Taplin reported to the Committee on the outcome of the public hearing at the March Town Council meeting. The Council directed the staff to begin implementing the education components of the proposal as soon as possible. As for the enforcement components of the proposal, the Council directed the staff to put together recommendations for how to achieve the goals of the proposal, taking into account public comment received. Rob Enelow reported that the staff will meet soon with several lawn service companies that work in the Town to educate them about reducing noise. It was decided that the Committee would supply questions for the staff to ask these companies as part of the effort to identify companies that are willing to work within the county residential noise limits and wish to be promoted within the Town as doing so. The Committee also decided to put together a packet of information to mail to residents to educate them on the County’s residential noise limits. This packet would include information handouts supplied by the County’s Department of Environmental Protection, and a complaint card residents can use to register noise complaints with the Town office.
- IV. There were no new discussions on the Water Ordinance.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.