

MEETING: 06/03/2025

Opened at 6:00pm / City Hall 3rd Floor Conference Room & Virtually on Zoom

Attendees

Members	Public
Mary Arlia (virtual) , Stacy Melvin, Robert MacDonald Associate Members: Tom Pritchett, Analise Draghi, Paul Schalow Absent Members: Tony Klapatch, Nick Gorski, Ian Kindle	Kate Semmens, Molly Bilinski, Brandon Sullivan, Todd Nemura, Eric Shamus, Artie Ravitz, Katie Taylor, Regan Luke, Connor Elliot-Nags

Agenda

EAC Organization

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm, At 6:00pm the meeting began recording.

May Meeting Minutes Approval

Motion made to approve the minutes with approved edits, Stacy first and Rob second, 5-0

Public Comment

No Public Comment was made.

Reports

Nature Nurture Center and CAP Task Force:

Katie spoke on the score Easton received from the Covenant of Mayors. The city received an "A-" overall with progress made due to the Adaptation Plan, procurement of a Sustainability Coordinator, as well as an Emissions Plan.

July 15th, between 5-7pm, is set to be the official date set for the EAC/CAP meeting to discuss the current agenda.

Final reports made were in discussion of event planning and coordination with the Sustainability Coordinator in regards to the Community Bike Works at Hugh Moore Park, June 7th, Plastic Free July, as well as a planned movie night dedicated to this on July 10th with a rain date of July 11th.

Greenspace Committee:

No report was made.

Transportation Committee:

No report was made.

Waste and Recycling Committee:

Discussion was made regarding Lafayette College and their Green Mountain Technology Compost Unit. Comment was made on the potential of Lafayette allowing the public to use during the off seasons for the college. Conor, the liaison from Lafayette College, confirmed there

is a discussion to be made in the future with the sustainability coordinator to tour the unit and the compost operations to further understand viability of the potential plan.

Discussion was made on the West Ward Sale and Lafayette needing assistance at the sale on June 14th, Saturday, at 1221 Northampton St, Easton, PA, 18042.

Cleanup at West Ward continues and volunteers are to meet on Wednesday, June 4th and Saturday, June 7th at both West Ward and Farmers' Markets.

Communications Committee:

Robert M. had no update at this time. Brief discussion was made on the MailChimp email chain for EAC. Future planning and discussion to continue at this time.

City Urban Forestry:

Brandon discussed on Rob Christopher's behalf of ongoing projects in the City of Easton. Bird Town was passed by the city council. Surveys of Bethlehem and Allentown projects were made and how they can benefit the city in such cases as transportation.

Dark Skies Sanctuary was discussed for the city. Comments about certain implementations to this plan such as lighting and future light contracts for the city were brought up.

Comment was also made about the role of the Ambassadors of Easton to inform the EAC and the Sustainability Coordinator's office on potential hot spots of bird strikes and cleanups. In addition to this, the lights in the downtown circle to be removed for bird safety were discussed. Future Dark Skies planning to be made when all members of EAC to be present.

Sustainability Coordinator Update:

Brandon updated the EAC on the changes to the city's website for both the Sustainability Coordinator office and EAC's related events. Bullet point list for potential sustainable standards to be added to the City of Easton was shown.

Discussion was made on funding, with the current DCED grants to be affected by ratings. Higher ratings for the city would assist in potential for greater grants in the future.

Events were discussed briefly. EV charging stations are being looked into for the city and the Fire Departments concerns are being addressed in the research. Mention of the Wetlands and the Wilson Warehouse was made.

Membership Update:

Associate membership for the Sustainability Coordinator to be discussed next meeting.

Continuing Business

Mary discussed an August presentation with other EACs, sustainability coordinator, and the Bushkill Conservancy and how to promote/coordinate efforts with the city and other municipalities/organizations.

Lehigh Valley EAC meeting for Wednesday, June 11th at 6:30pm-8:00pm at the Bethlehem Community Center. WeConserve was discussed for regional EAC meeting events.

New Business

FreshPet reached out to Rob C. with a wish to coordinate with the Easton EAC to facilitate cleanups. Mary discussed a potential meeting with Rob C. and FreshPet to discuss further.

Victaulic collaboration with prior cleanups and other organizations was brought up as an example for such collaboration. The city possibly has mulch to use to assist the urban farms and can further assist in the compost operations as well as the coordination between the city and Lafayette College.

Possibility of the EAC to partner with Crayola was discussed. Tom stated he would contact the CEO of Crayola to start conversation on this potential. Brandon and the EAC stated they would reach out in a coordinated effort.

Corporate grants were also discussed. Further research to be made for grant funding. Backlash from the community for the potential use of corporate grants was made as well. Further discussion to be made at a later meeting.

Meeting was adjourned; motioned by Robert M, seconded by Mary - passed 3-0-0.