

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 21, 2024

<p>Commercial Energy Efficiency</p> <p>Mobility</p>	<p>Housing Plan for applicability. He also asked if a third member would be interested in participating on the subcommittee.</p> <p>Ms. Tompkins introduced a revised partner building concept. The subcommittee decided a formal partnership would not be feasible. Instead, the subcommittee asked if other members would support a meet-&-greet with EAC members to share progress and get feedback. Mr. Carbone recommended a community conversation framing to hear what is important to the community. This could be a recurring conversation.</p> <p>Ms. Tompkins asked Councilwoman Vogel about the status of the subcommittee’s request to council to explore creating a Meadville 2030 District. The Councilwoman said this never went before council, so the subcommittee decided to revisit this.</p> <p>Ms. Mogush shared that the WalkWorks application was submitted by Mr. Grella.</p> <p>Bike Racks: The subcommittee decided how much racks would get logos versus not. The decision was for 20 to include logos and 5 to not. It was clarified that the Crawford County Technical & Career Center students can craft as many logos as needed. Ms. Hicks agreed to provide a list of rack locations to Peter. Mr. Bethurem reminded members of some of the key considerations for placement and agreed to share an interactive GIS map of his student recommendations for placement. Councilwoman Vogel encouraged the subcommittee to consider holding a meeting to walk and mark rack locations to guide public works staff.</p>
<p>New Business</p> <p>Discussion – Pulse Check on Subcommittee Outputs Against CAP Goals</p>	<p>All members agreed it was time to revisit the CAP to reprioritize subcommittee work. The next monthly meeting will include this exercise.</p> <p>Ms. Mogush raised the topic of urban tree canopy cover as a consideration not currently considered a priority.</p> <p>Councilwoman Vogel raised the possibility of rethinking the subcommittee structure entirely. Is there a different way to frame the work? The EAC is the only ABC with active working subcommittees. Ms. Tompkins asked if the subcommittees could be reframed around governance tactics instead of CAP categories. New examples may be external communications, staff collaboration, event planning, etc.</p> <p>Mr. Grella shared that City Council set a goal to complete an Active Transportation Plan in 2024. If awarded, the \$30,000 WalkWorks award would not be enough to create an entire Active Transportation Plan.</p> <p>There will need to be a lot of in-kind effort outside of engineering time regardless to make a plan possible by the end of the year. Creation of a full plan will be even more demanding than the already cumbersome WalkWorks application.</p> <p>A Steering Committee with diverse representation is required. Ask #1: Is the EAC committed to from Summer 2024 to Summer 2025 to be a key community partner for the Steering Committee? Is yes, who is going to double or triple their current committee? This role will require bi-weekly calls with the PA Downtown Center,</p>

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 21, 2024

<p>Discussion – April 22nd Earth Day Event</p> <p>Discussion – Second Saturdays/Spring & Summer Local Event Promotion</p> <p>Discussion – EAC Vacancy</p>	<p>monthly Steering Committee meetings, and coordination for EAC in-kind support. Ms. Hicks agreed to fill this role.</p> <p>Mr. Grella shared that the Shade Tree Commission, City Council, and the Planning Commission will be represented on the Steering Committee.</p> <p>Ask #2: Will the EAC reach out to partners listed in WalkWorks application to verify their continued collaboration? Mr. Grella expressed concern that several community partners never responded to a request to submit a letter of support for the final WalkWorks application. Councilwoman Vogel agreed to reach out to Creative Landscapes/Walkable Meadville, and Ms. Mogush agreed to reach back out to Dr. Becky Dawson.</p> <p>Ask #3: Will the EAC agree to help execute public events for the planning process and share information on the EAC Facebook page? Yes, the EAC agreed to provide support for several more community conversations, including two community events.</p> <p>Ask #4: Will EAC members assist with some data collection in focus area for streetscape improvements? Yes, the EAC agreed to assist with logging crosswalks, streetlight inadequacy, etc.</p> <p>Ask #5: Will Ms. Mogush and Ms. Hicks send a thank you message to listening session participants with project updates? Yes, and Mr. Grella agreed to draft this email.</p> <p>Ms. Hicks asked if there are any events to collaborate on that are planned for Earth Day. No ideas were mentioned by members, and the decision was made to forego an event.</p> <p>Ms. Hicks asked the group if they would like to try to table at Second Saturdays this spring/summer. Ms. Mogush agreed to look into the application and ask about space availability. The EAC would need to include an activity in its tabling.</p> <p>Other Events to Consider for Tabling: Celebration Meadville, Eclipse Day, Shade Tree Commission April 11th Arbor Day Proclamation at Bicentennial Park</p> <p>Mr. Grella clarified that the typical process is for a chair or departing member to email the city clerk to make them aware. Mr. McUmber did this, but Mr. Grella agreed to ask the colleague responsible for an update on the posting for the vacancy.</p>
<p>Old Business</p> <p>Discussion – 2/24/24 EAC Network Conference</p> <p>Discussion – Shared Energy Manager</p>	<p>Ms. Tompkins and Ms. Mogush both attended the conference.</p> <p>Ms. Mogush reinforced the importance of urban forestry and the greening of communities. Ms. Tompkins shared that DEP clarified that the Shared Energy Manager Program is now being encouraged to assist with community-based projects rather than being restricted to just municipal operations. Mr. Carbone shared that there will be engineering costs associated with community-based solar installations, and if the SEM could cover those costs, that would be very helpful.</p> <p>EAC members clarified that they have not participated in any other coordination calls with the SEM. Currently, Wilson Engineering is focusing on documentation</p>

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES
March 21, 2024

Program	<p>for financing options for the DEP building and leading the city through the tax credit process to finance a portion of the project.</p> <p>Ms. Tompkins agreed to send the EAC meeting minutes to Wilson and invite the SEM to the May EAC meeting.</p>
Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items	None.
Chair’s Comments	None.
Committee Member Comments	None.
Agenda for Next Meeting	<p>Ms. Hicks offered the following items for the next meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Benchmarking the CAP - Exploring revising the subcommittee structure - Allegheny student intern involvement – semester versus summer
Adjournment	Ms. Hicks called for a motion for adjournment at 7 pm. Mr. Carbone made the motion and Ms. Mogush seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Maryann Menanno, Interim City Clerk