

Environmental Policy Commission Minutes
January 7, 2013 EPC Work Session

EPC Members in Attendance

✓	Josh Sawislak (Chair)	✓	Danielle Fidler	✓	Kurt Moser
✓	Chinling Chen	✓	Scott Barstow	✓	Geoffrey Goode
✓	Steve Walz	X	Ryan Sloan	✓	Rebecca Jablon
✓	Ryan Wojtanowski	✓	Monica Starnes		

[✓ = In attendance X= Absent]

City Staff

Khoa Tran, Bill Skrabak

Begin 7:35 PM

Welcome and Introductions

- Josh called the meeting to order and welcomed Jan MacPherson and Jon Trotta, local citizens, Richard Engel from Marstel-Day and Adrienne Fancher from AlexRenew.

Public Comments

- None

Commission Member and Staff Updates

- Earth Day and Ellen Pickering Award Update
 - o Chinling announced that the Earth Day Committee meets the first Wednesday of every month. So far the planning is going well, but could always use more help - she invited all EPC members to attend.
 - o Geoff volunteered to help with the Ellen Pickering award; he and Chinling will be the EPC representatives on the judging panel.
- EPC Representative in the Fort Ward Stakeholder Advisory Group
 - o There is currently an opening for an EPC representative on the Advisory Group; Josh asked if there are any volunteers.
 - o Meetings are held the second Wednesday of every month; the next meeting is this Wednesday, January 9th.
 - o Steve volunteered to go to the meeting this week – discussion on a more long-term representation was tabled until the next EPC meeting.
- Top Ten Environmental Achievements of 2012
 - o Bill and Khoa highlighted the City's top ten environmental achievements of 2012
 - o A more comprehensive post is online and can be found at the Eco-City webpage: <http://alexandriava.gov/Eco-City>.
- VDEQ Letter to GenOn regarding PRGS Permanent Shutdown
 - o From a regulatory perspective there needed to be a retirement of GenOn permits – the letter, as a formality, describes the closure of their permits.
- EPC Updated Calendar for FY 2013
 - o A correction to the calendar has the next meeting on January 28th.
- Khoa and Bill will look into whether the Union Street redesign team can present to the EPC at an upcoming meeting.
- The Jefferson-Houston Advisory Group is moving along with the design of the new school – striving to make the school approximately 50 percent more energy-efficient than the code calls for.

Draft Alexandria Housing Master Plan

- A discussion was held on how the Housing Plan can incorporate discussion on green practices and regulations:
 - o It was noted that the plan includes no discussion on general sustainability. Although there is some mention of energy-efficiency, the Plan should look to the Eco-City Charter and the Environmental Action Plan (EAP).
 - o In addition, it was suggested that the Plan should give more mention of the Green Building Plan. It was recommended that green building requirements should be spelled out in the plan as part of the housing requirements and that green building policy and energy-efficiency strategies should be non-negotiable.
 - o Monica and Geoff volunteered to go through the Draft Housing Plan and cross-reference it to the Charter and the EAP to see where text can be added.
 - o Khoa will send Josh the contact info of the Office of Housing – Josh will then get in touch to let them know the EPC has comments.

Other Business

- Josh announced that due to new work commitments, he might not be able to be as active with the EPC as he had hoped; however, he will coordinate with Scott to ensure all responsibilities are met.
- Danielle was thanked for her years of service and dedication to the EPC – she will be sorely missed.

Adjourn 8:55 PM