

**Mt. Lebanon Environmental Sustainability Board
Meeting Minutes**

March 12, 2020 – Room C

- **Call Meeting to Order**

Roll Call:

Attendees:

Abby Lawlor Morycz
Nora Alwine
Tim Reidy
Natalie Uschner-Arroyo
Bethany Foster-Wilhelm
Sarah Levinthal
Heather Wechter
Andrew Flynn
Hugh Beal
Bonnie Cross

Absent:

- **Public Comment:** None
- **Approval of February, 2020 Minutes:** Tim motioned to approve the February, 2020 minutes. Heather seconded and all members in attendance approved.
- **ESB Business:**
 - Rudy Sukal, Director of Public Works – Discussion. Mr. Sukal was in attendance to respond to questions regarding Public Works operations, many of which involve issues that are of interest to the ESB.
 - PRC – Glass Recycling. Commissioner Flynn reported that Assistant Manager Ian McMeans had given the Commission an update on glass recycling and that a group of South Hills communities were trying to establish a more permanent location. Rudy added that they were trying to get a 902 grant, which has a 7:1 ratio
 - Sustainability Measurements. The Board explained that they would like to update the Climate Action Plan and wanted to know what existing data was available. Other questions included:
 - Does the municipality still have lead lines? Rudy responded that Penn American water has a policy to replace domestic water lines – the domestic water supply is not under the jurisdiction of the municipality.

- Data on energy usage. What does the municipality have? Rudy responded that while we have done things to reduce energy consumption, we do not receive information that is broken down by building or location.
- Sanitary and storm sewers. The system is overloaded from a number of sources. Public Works monitors dry and wet weather flow and intensity. The municipality needs to reduce pollutants in the storm water.
- Trees – Rudy explained that the municipality had over 11,000 street trees, plus the ones in the parks, with a year-round, three-person crew. Inspections are done, plus PW tries to respond to as many resident requests as possible. The requests and inspections are triaged with the more dangerous issues being handled first.
- Andrew provided a presentation relative to the Climate Action Plan (CAP), noting that no measurements had been collected since 2011. He outlined four facets: Power, Water/Wastewater, Waste Management, and Air Quality. Develop metrics with a locally designed program goal for 2030. Communicate the plan, have the ESB be the governance body with lead staff from the municipality plus outside stakeholders. Measure, design programs, implement, analyze performance, and optimize.

A starting point is to capture data and build a process to embed the program for the future. Ideas generated included:

- Ask Representative Dan Miller if there is data regarding the cost/benefit of solar power and to possibly give the Board some perspective and help in getting data from Duquesne Light.
 - See if data could be broken out by building/cost center.
 - Try to engage high school students from the Environmental Club to assist for community service.
 - Phase I – Measure; Phase II – Implement; Phase III – Communicate and create a structure to engage the community.
 - Determine what grant money might be available (possibly from the utility companies)
 - Determine if air quality monitors are available
- **School Board Liaison Report** – School Board member Hugh Beal talked about the school energy contracts. He is trying to ensure that at least part of the contract involves green energy.
 - **Earth Day** – still on for 4/26/20
 - **Commission Business**
 - Parks Plan – Assistant Manager McMeans’ memo was shared with the group, asking for a representative from the ESB. Sarah volunteered.

- **Adjournment.** Natalie motioned to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Bethany, and unanimously approved by the members present.