

Chevy Chase Village Energy and Environment Committee (E&EC)

Minutes –October 26 2010

The Chevy Chase Village Energy and Environment Committee (The Village Green Gang) co-chaired by Marilyn Bracken and Marea Hatzios met on October 26, 2010. Larry Heilman attended the meeting as the Board Liaison and Betsy Stephens attended as an E&EC member. The group agreed that developing a mission statement that reflects continuity with the approach from the previous year was important and would direct the work in the future. The E&EC will:

1. Educate the Village residents in best practices in energy and environment.
2. Use the Village Hall as a model of energy and environmental practices.
3. Work with the other Village Committees to incorporate energy and environmental practices where appropriate.

To assist Village residents experts from the Committee in selected energy and environment areas such as solar heating and energy audits will be available for help and guidance. These experts will be identified in an upcoming issue of the Crier. Committee members are requested to identify areas where they would be willing to help.

The Committee discussed the Solar Energy System for the Village Town Hall prepared by Standard Solar and coordinated by Valery Amiel. The report was provided to Elissa Leonard Powell and Roxann Steinberg, the co-chairs of the Building Facilities Commission. The Village Hall Energy Audit was also provided to them with recommendations for actions from the E&EC as well as a report from the Village staff of actions taken to date. They will take the lead role in implementing further actions, including a review of the solar proposal prior to forwarding it to the Board for consideration, working closely with Board of Managers and Village staff.

The Committee also discussed various comments received from residents regarding the Noise Ordinance and in particular, comments raised about the use of leaf blowers. Jonathan Lyons was asked to chair a subcommittee of the E&EC to review the problem of noise pollution and excessive carbon emissions, what other communities have done to address the problem, and make recommendations to the full committee.

The Committee recommended that the Check List for Carbon Reduction prepared by Marilyn Bracken be re-issued and published in the Crier. It was suggested that it be used as the basis of Standard Operating Procedures for Village Hall operations. Susie Eig prepared suggestions for environmental guidelines that could be used by other Village Committees. Working with the other Village committees on cross-cutting environmental and energy issues was incorporated in the Committee mission statement. It was further discussed that minutes of E&EC meetings be posted on the Village Web Site. The Wolfforth property was discussed; it was noted that support from the Committee would be very useful.

Village residents that would like to participate on the Committee are urged to call Marilyn or Marea or email them at marbracken@msn.com or mhatzios@worldbank.org.

Submitted by Marilyn C. Bracken