

**Town of University Park
Sustainability Committee**

January 21, 2019
University Park Town Hall

Present

Committee members David Brosch, Joe Schultz, Joe Thompson, Ross Salawitch, Leslie Jenkins, Roy Alvarez.

Guests: Mayor Len Carey

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

Meeting notes

1. Mayor Carey spoke to the committee about his desire to see the town sustainability plan extended and revised to put a clear, deliberate focus on climate change. With the federal government having abandoned a leadership role, states and localities must step up. He has been involved in discussions going on among Maryland counties, within the Maryland Municipal League, and in other venues. The sustainability plan should help guide the town's efforts on this problem.

2. Discussion of the study of the town food-waste composting pilot conducted by students in the University of Maryland Environmental Science and Policy (ENSP) program. General agreement that the study was a helpful first step, though more helpful in understanding costs than benefits, which were not comprehensively evaluated. Survey and participation data highlighted an opportunity for the town to do much more to publicize the program and to inform residents about the environmental rationale behind food-waste composting and how it works.

Next steps: Put together some information on environmental benefits of the food-waste pilot, to supplement the ENSP study and permit a balanced evaluation of the program.

3. Discussion of the committee's work plan for 2019. Potential projects and action items: (1) a study of transportation in the town, including but not limited to the shuttle-bus, to be undertaken by another group of ENSP students as a capstone project; (2) LED retrofit for street lights; (3) reviving funding for an intern to work on mosquito control; (4) revising the sustainability plan to reframe it around climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.