

**Town of University Park
Sustainability Committee
Wednesday, February 5, 2020
7:30 PM – 9:00 PM
University Park Town Hall
6724 Baltimore Avenue**

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m. Attending: committee members Joe Thompson, Rosemarie Calabro Tully, Leslie Jenkins, Roy Alvarez, Dave Brosch, Steve Hurtt, Joe Schultz, and guest Christophe Beaumier, a graduate student in the University of Maryland School of Public Policy.

Minutes

1. Mr. Beaumier gave a progress report on his project gathering information to support planning for the town park, including a summary of some initial results of a structured literature review, preliminary collection of basic data, selection of comparable municipalities (Berwyn Heights, Kensington). He'll continue his work through the new term. Next update tentatively anticipated in March, with a final report coming at the end of the academic year.
2. The committee agreed by consensus to send several recommendations to council concerning expansion of the food waste composting program: That the program remain voluntary; that the town begin accepting meat and dairy immediately, or as soon as possible if there's need for some delay; that the town continue using 5 gal. buckets to collect food waste for composting, as opposed to larger containers, and also continue the current practice of providing buckets and bags at the town's expense, for the sake of encouraging participation; and that the town expand the program to provide or subsidize backyard compost bins, because they are an even more effective way to pursue the environmental goals of the program, and adding such a subsidy would be more equitable. Joe Schultz will convey these recommendations.
3. Dave Brosch raised the question whether it would be appropriate for the town council and mayor to write letters in support of some or all of five bills the Sierra Club is

seeking to advance in Annapolis during this legislative session. After discussion, the committee agreed that it would not be advisable.

4. The committee agreed use the template provided by Sustainable Maryland to update the town sustainability plan, and to develop a separate document articulating the town's goals or priorities concerning policies related to climate change specifically, working from the draft by Joe Thompson and Rose Tully. The committee will return to the question of developing a more comprehensive sustainability plan for the town at a later date.
5. Schultz reported that Mike Hunninghake of Sustainable Maryland has recruited a UMD student to carry out a project calculating the town government's carbon footprint. This will become part of the town's application for recertification with Sustainable Maryland.
6. Dave Brosch presented some initial information on PEPCO's Home Performance with Energy Star Program. Further discussion to be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Submitted by Joe Schultz, chair.