



Green Pact Meeting Notes

April 2, 2014

Attendees: Emily Knox (City of Upper Arlington), Kyle Krindler (City of Dublin), John Giamarco (Blendon Township), Michelle Crandall (City of Dublin), Paul Wise (Genoa Township), Lee Brown (City of Worthington), Erin Miller (City of Columbus), Lisa LaMantia (City of Westerville), Andy Boatwright (City of Westerville), Ben Kessler (City of Bexley), Bill Dorman (City of Bexley), Janell Thomas (Washington Township), Andia Sangale (Metro Parks), Charlie Hottel (Franklin County)

MORPC Staff: Brandi Whetstone, Kerstin Carr, Amelia Costanzo, Claire Jennings

MORPC Updates

- Amended Sustainable Events Guide available on MORPC's website: <http://www.morpc.org/pdf/2014SustainableEventsGuide.pdf>
- Energy Action Plan for the Columbus Region update: Edits and comments from peer reviewers were incorporated into final draft and delivered to National Association of Regional Councils (NARC), which is finalizing the report for release. The report will be jointly released by NARC and MORPC.

Green Pact's goals as driver for new Sustainability Committee

- A new Sustainability Committee has been recommended to act as the advisory body on the MORPC Commission for the various working groups.
- Its composition is suggested to be:
 - Chair and Vice-Chair (both MORPC members), 4 external partners each representing the working groups, at least 3 representatives from the Green Pact, and at least 3 open seats. It would be supported by two staff members representing Energy and Air Quality and Planning and Environment departments.
- Mission and Role:
 - The Sustainability Committee will serve as the voice of sustainability focused programming for MORPC to the Commission. It will advise working groups as sub-committees of this larger committee.
 - It will shape priorities using Green Pact as guiding document and develop performance measures to track progress.
 - It will bring policy and program recommendations to the Commission.
 - It will establish sub-committees as needed.
- Next steps:
 - Recommended language will go to the By-Laws Committee for consideration this spring.
 - We expect the committee to be made official in the next few months.

Community Updates

Westerville

- Lisa Lamantia will be the new chair for Green Pact
- Received a SWACO grant for backyard compost classes (\$30 for a bin, kitchen compost, etc. It's been very popular)
- Advanced metering deployment continues into residential areas

- New recycling bins in public realm
- Working on their 1st comprehensive plan in 50 years

Upper Arlington

- Council has convened a sidewalk subcommittee
- Investigating some shared services
- New Starbucks on Henderson Road is LEED eligible

New Albany

- Working on a Park and Ride with COTA
- Planning for more leisure trails

Dublin

- Bike friendly community status: continuing these efforts
- Trying to get their diversion rates above 50% (48-49% currently)
- Green fleet now has 56 CNG vehicles
- Furniture bank marketing in Dublin
- Will educate custodians on energy efficiency
- Looking into combined heat and power for recreational buildings

Genoa Township

- Working on waste hauler agreement with other townships
- Working on township master plan

Franklin Soil & Water

- Rain barrel program open online
- Researching some backyard conservation programs

Bexley

- Starting a pilot program for food waste
- The City of Bexley was designated an arboretum for its street trees – this is unique
- Street trees that need to be removed are being chipped and are going to be added to the new City Hall
- Continue to work on new park on Alum Creek
- Planning for new medians on Broad Street in the future
- Investigating solar panels for a new service garage
- Possible expansion of CoGo Bike Share into Bexley

Franklin County Green Team

- 3rd public e-waste recycling on April 26th at Huntington Park
- Food waste diversion continuing at county facilities (with Eartha Unlimited)
 - County building: food prep waste, then compostable items: diverting over a ton of waste a month from cafeteria
 - County jail: diverting over 3 tons of waste from food prep
 - Has started at Jackson Pike jail, with 6 tons of waste diverted in first month

Blendon Township

- Working on building efficiencies (lighting)
- New community garden
- Rain barrel workshops

Gahanna

- Electronic recycling
- Rain barrels
- Switching parking garage lighting to T-5
- Trial of pervious pavement: measured runoff before installation
- Safe Routes to School grant

Columbus

- Planning for the next 5 years, and will include more metrics in its sustainability plan
- Doing a canopy assessment: looking to increase it from 17% to 22%
- Expanded the recycling program to include condos and apartments
 - 92% adoption rate
 - 48,000 tons recycled so far
 - 74% of residents participating
- Some public recycling bins installed
- Installing some water fountains on trails
- CNG Station on Morse Rd. will open in June
- Trying to figure out community aggregation for power

Metro Parks

- Increasing bike trails and adding new parks
- Continuing energy audits throughout Metro Parks
- Implemented anti-idling program