



LEESBURG ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION

**Tuesday  
January 5, 2021  
7:00 P.M.**

Town Hall  
Lower Level Conference Room 2  
25 West Market Street

COMMISSIONERS

Maria Bergheim (20)

Kohler Brafford (20)

Jennifer Chu (20)

Gabriella Kelemen (22)

Paul Sheaffer (20)

Vacant (22)

Vacant (22)

*If you require any type of reasonable accommodation, as a result of a physical, sensory or mental disability, to attend and/or participate in this meeting, please contact Richard Klusek at 703-771-2758. Three days advance notice is requested.*

# LEESBURG ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION

***Mission:*** *To promote and protect the environmental interests of the Town.*

## MEETING AGENDA

**Tuesday January 5, 2021**

7:00 P.M. Lower Level Conference Room 2, Town Hall

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes: December 1, 2020\*
4. Chairperson's Statement
5. Petitioners
6. Staff Items
  - a. 2020 Tolbert Award
7. Old Business (60 Minutes)
  - a. EAC Strategic Plan Update
8. New Business
  - a. None
9. Adjournment

(\*) Material attached

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**Town of Leesburg Environmental Advisory Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
December 1, 2020**

The Town of Leesburg's Environmental Advisory Commission (EAC) met on December 1st, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall at 25 West Market St., Leesburg, Virginia.

**Call to Order:** Chairperson Chu called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**Roll Call:** Present: Commissioners Jennifer Chu, Paul Sheaffer, Maria Bergheim, and Kohler Brafford with Gabe Kelemen absent. The EAC currently only has 5 Commissioners with 2 positions vacant.

Staff Representatives: Richard Klusek

Petitioner/Presenter: None

Mayor Kelly Burk by teleconference

**Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved 4-0-1 (motion by Chu, second by Brafford, Kelemen absent).

**Approval of Minutes:** There being no major corrections, the meeting minutes of November 4, 2020 were approved as presented 4-0-1 (motion by Chu, second by Sheaffer, Kelemen absent).

**Chairperson's Statement:** Chairperson Chu welcomed the Commissioners and thanked the Mayor for joining.

**Staff Items:** Tolbert Award nominations needed. Klusek will work on press releases, etc. to get nominations from the public. Person can be anyone – they do not have to live in Leesburg, but typically they are very aligned with the Town in some way. Late this year – usually October or November. EAC will review in February. EAC Commissioners should think about people to nominate.

Update on Energy Conservation Plan can be found in the minutes from the Town Council meeting of November 9, 2020. Mayor Burk stated most actions are LED lights, and would like to see other systems involved. Large systems include the wastewater treatment plant, pumping, Ida Lee, Town Hall, the garage, and the maintenance facility. The Town had some type of Energy Audit a few years ago.

**Old Business:**

- a. EAC Strategic Plan Update. For the rest of the meeting, the EAC reviewed the ideas in the four priority areas in the existing Strategic Plan – recycling and waste management, pesticide use, water quality, and energy conservation.

The following summarizes the review. Ideas with a strikethrough were rejected.

### *Recycling and Waste Management*

- More litter cleanups – twice per year (on-going)
- ~~Have Town adopt program like pledge for 5 R's (Recycle, Rethink, Reduce, refuse) zero Waste that Phoenix is using~~
- Wastewise cities program (need input from Kelemen to decide)
- More recycling bins in Town (in public spaces, need inventory, relative to normal trash bins, need to work with Parks and Recs, see if there is an inventory in GIS, figure out locations, etc., look at quadrants, find locations where more recycling bins might be needed). Klusek will see if there an inventory.
- Purple bins for glass recycling – where would it be located on Town property? Wait for more information from the Town, investigate more. Bergheim and Chu to lead.
- ~~Color coded recycle bins (not single stream)~~
- ~~Reduce size of trash cans to make people generated less trash and recycled material in general~~
- ~~Require people to use clear trash bags~~
- Master recyclers program – training from state on all aspects of recycling (need input from Kelemen)
- Tree banking (need input from Kelemen)
- Recyclebank for doing recycling activities (included in final bullet)
- Program to get reward programs for doing recycling (included in final bullet)
- Plastics – expand beyond just 1-2s (included in final bullet)
- ~~More recycling bins in Town, fewer regular trash cans (repeat of above)~~
- Need better overall Town recycling policy/rules = make list of improvements to Town. Do more research – what happens with our recycling? And what can be done. Evaluate opportunities to expand the types of products that can be recycled. The EAC will identify areas where we can improve. Medium to long term. How to make it better. Bergheim and Chu to lead.

### *Pesticide*

- Education through HOA's, ~~voluntarily stop using pesticides~~ (outreach with pamphlet below) Chu to lead when we have the pamphlet.
- ~~Roundup the Roundup – Awareness at county collection dates, can submit pesticides and fertilizers (already being done)~~
- Other chemicals too (not just glyphosate) (include in the pamphlet below)
- Work with Town to ~~stop using~~ reduce pesticides and continue to support the goat program. Kelemen to lead.
- Pamphlet for fertilizer and pesticide use (included in the pamphlet below)
- ~~Tag on to the “In my backyard program”~~
- ~~Create in your backyard event like rain barrel workshop and do more rain barrel workshop (continue to support/promote rain barrel workshop – move to under water quality)~~
- ~~Maryland – banned use of pesticide in specific areas – ask Town to ban wherever the public has lots of exposure (e.g., parks and playground)~~ Gabe to work with Kohler
- Pamphlet on smart practices in landscaping
  - Town has some material, EAC will review
  - Print something to leave at Town Hall and have on website
  - Include the right way to use fertilizers and pesticides and alternatives
  - This covers many of the bullets above
  - Also maybe feature in Live in Leesburg

- Brafford to lead
- VA coop extension – In your Backyard (through Master Gardeners)
  - Put in MS4 program – that is what Loudoun County is doing
  - Make an In-Your-Backyard event, like the Rain Barrel event
  - Chu to lead

### *Water Quality*

- Rainwater harvesting on municipal buildings – pilot project (need input from Kelemen to decide)
- Road salt reduction, pre-treatment – Chu to lead
- ~~● Dogs clean up stations~~
- ~~● Extend DPW drain marking program, promote education/activities~~
- ~~● Something like in DC – rainwater harvesting on buildings~~
- Drain markings. Have an event for this. Have a workshop. Expand the DPW effort. Chu to lead.
- Add Rain barrel workshop. Brafford to lead.

### *Energy Conservation*

- Work with Town Staff to enhance and better implement energy conservation plan. Sheaffer/Chu to lead.
- Traffic energy conservation – Town plan policy to have more bike lanes, traffic circles, etc. Identify specific areas. Bergheim to lead.
- More bike parking, included with bullet above.
- Charging stations for electric cars (potential Town Income) = long term item, behind in that we do not have that many of them, new gas stations could have them, built or updated, recommending that EV stations be part of new gas stations. Sheaffer/Chu to lead
- Glow in the dark trees (bioluminescence/solar lighting) for paths – Kelemen to identify specific paths.
- ~~● Micromobility (small buses) – look into scooters and golf carts~~
- C-PACE (Leesburg can use it) – outreach, already allowed, add it to the website (portal), add to Town website. Chu to lead
- Footfall harvests – generate electricity with footsteps on paths – Kelemen to research

Kelemen can remove strike throughs on any item if she wants to lead the effort.

### *Other*

- Flower and Garden Shows

Need to think about new members of the EAC and what their priorities might be. Bee City given as an example where a Commissioner led the action, and then when gone from the Commission, the action languished.

Mayor Burk mentioned discussion around a Joint commission with the EAC and the Tree Commission. Will come up at the January Town Council meeting. The two Chairs of these commission will talk, and the EAC will vote on a recommendation for Town Council during our January meeting.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:58pm, approved 4-0-1 (motion by Brafford, second by Sheaffer, Kelemen absent).