



Town of Leesburg Environmental Advisory Commission
Meeting Minutes
June 6, 2023

The Town of Leesburg's Environmental Advisory Commission (EAC) met on June 6, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall at 25 West Market St., Leesburg, Virginia.

Call to Order: Chair Sheaffer called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present: Paul Sheaffer, Julie Bolthouse, Leigh Anne Faugust, Ami Mason, Patricia Hatfield, and Deanna Glick.

Absent: Kohler Brafford

Petitioners: Kirsten Ponticelli

Observers: Doug Hensch and Jen Chu

Staff Representative: Deb Moran

Paul Sheaffer stated: "It is the practice of the Town of Leesburg to record meetings of the Town's standing boards and commissions. All Town Council, Board, and Commission meetings are recorded and can be found on the Town's Web Site at www.LeesburgVA.gov.

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved 6-0-1 (motion by Faugust, second by Bolthouse)

Approval of Minutes: The meeting minutes of May 2, 2023 were approved 6-0-1 (motion by Sheaffer, second by Glick).

Chairperson's Statement: None

Petitioners Time:

Ponticelli shared about annual art gallery called Love Your Mother earth-themed art gallery held to raised funds for Keep Loudoun Beautiful and Keep Leesburg Beautiful. Asked if we could donate free merchandise for event such as the magnets. Event is June 14-15th 4pm-7pm at Rust Manor House (802 Childrens Center Road SW, Leesburg, VA 20175). Paul offered to set up a table at the event with magnets and native seeds. Ami suggested Banshee Reeks and Master Gardeners might want to table at event as well. Sheaffer will staff Wednesday and Glick will staff Thursday.

Staff Items:

- **Historic preservation and sustainability workshop:** Staff attended historic preservation and sustainability workshop and would like to discuss ideas of how to implement ideas in Leesburg in August
- **Annual electricity consumed by Town** – Moran reported that FY 2021 – Leesburg used 21 million kW hours per year for Town government operations to the tune of \$2,000,000; looking at software to help them do it more automatically in the future
- **Solar in Town** – Town is evaluating possibility of solar at water treatment facility and parking garage
- **EV Charging Stations** – Town is evaluating possibility of solar at Ida Lee, police station, town shop, and parking garage
- **Sustainably Progress** – Plan is for report to come out in October! EAC will be able to review by August.

Old Business:

- Review of Strategic Plan Task:** Sheaffer asked that everyone review the strategic plan tasks prior to next meeting.
- Final spending requests for fiscal year:**
 - Hatfield suggested seed bombs for kids in Leesburg schools – purchase clay and compost and provide educational flyer (Ami can help develop information) Hatfield will develop an estimate for 80 children (need to determine how many students there are). Future years maybe start education on composting.
 - Bolthouse asked about the air monitor; WiFi appears to be the problem; Moran will investigate further the WiFi issue.
 - Faugust suggest table clothes with logo – she will look into and add to sharepoint
 - Faugust suggested new small folding tables (6 foot table) – she will look into and add to sharepoint
 - Mason suggested easy up tent (10'x10'); Bolthouse suggested tent with EAC logo – Faugust will look into and add to sharepoint
 - Sheaffer suggested stickers – he will add to sharepoint
 - Faugust will send out file; EAC members will review by the end of the week
 - Bolthouse made a motion to authorize Faugust to send the list of items discussed (tent, table, table, clothes, stickers, and seed bomb materials) to be purchased by the Town with the remaining funds from EAC budget. Motion seconded by Sheaffer. Motion passed 6-0-1.
- Recycling Discussion:** Glick raised issues with communications challenges with Town. Moran explained lots of media options and existing kits out there. Moran suggested Recycle Coach app that the Town might want to use. Moran also discussed need for audit so we have a starting point.
- Generators at Data Centers:** Bolthouse reported we received response from Todd Cimino-Johnson and Zach Cummings. Hatfield reported that Martinez also

found the letter very helpful. Bolthouse will send out staff report and draft zoning text with some thoughts on it once available. Moran said all changes will be reviewed by Planning Commission on June 15th.

New Business:

- a) **Community Composting** – Town Council member requested staff provide Town Council with information about community composting information at the July meeting. Food waste drop off sites and yard wasted composting discussed.
- b) **Goat Grazing** – Moran explained that the stream has to remain clear. Staff is discussing further plans for that space.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 pm approved 6-0-1 (motioned by Mason, second by Bolthouse).