



Delaware County Sustainability Commission Meeting Minutes

Friday, April 9th, 2024

2:00 - 4:00 PM

Attendees:

| Commission Members | | Other County Staff | |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| PUBLIC MEMBERS (5 for Quorum) | | X | Becca Yurkovich |
| X | Steve Clark | X | Elaine Schaefer |
| X | David Director | X | Ron Aquilino |
| X | Krystl Gauld | X | Anne Stauffer |
| X | Cephus Hales-Richardson | X | Barbara O'Malley |
| X | Carol Martsolf | | |
| X | Julie Prey | | |
| X | Jaclyn Rhoads | | |
| X | Shawn Stancill | | |
| X | Grace Venit | | |
| | Joi Washington | | |
| GOVERNMENT MEMBERS (4 for Quorum) | | | |
| X | Gina Burritt | | |
| X | Laura Goodrich-Cairns | | |
| | Francine Locke | | |
| X | Karen Wilwol | | |
| | Marc Manfre | | |
| | Ed Orner | | |
| X | Brooks Stayer | | |

1. Welcome & Roll Call – Carol Martsolf - (2:00 PM)
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from October and November - Carol Martsolf (2:05 PM - 2:07 PM)
 - a. December 2023, January 2024, February 2024, March 2024
 - i. Motion by: Krystl Gauld
 - ii. Seconded by: David Director
 - iii. Outcome: Passed Unanimously
3. Approval of Proposed By-Law Amendment (2:07 - 2:13 PM)
 - a. Amendment adds the Sustainability and Resilience Manager as a Government Member of the Commission
 - b. Amendment also allows each County department to appoint a designee, or alternate, to fulfill their duties in the member's absence or disability. Each member shall only have one designee, who will be approved by a minimum of $\frac{2}{3}$ majority of the total current membership during the annual meeting.
 - i. Motion by: David Director
 - ii. Seconded by: Krystl Gauld

iii. Outcome: Passed Unanimously

4. Interactive Question - Carol Martsolf - What is the key to advancing sustainability?
 - a. Education, Transparency, Collaboration, Unity, and Vision were ideas for advancing sustainability
5. Instructions for Public Comment - Carol Martsolf (2:13 - 2:15 PM)
6. *Public Comment* (SustainDelco@co.delaware.pa.us and from Zoom chat) –
 - a. *Corey Crews-Williams asked what can members of the public make public comment on?*
 - i. *Carol Martsolf noted they can make comment on items on the agenda or other sustainability related matters*
7. Delaware County Office of Sustainability Update (DCOS) - Becca Yurkovich (2:15 PM - 2:45 PM)
 - a. Sustainability Conference Updates
 - i. Call for Nominations for Sustainability Conference Awards - Due April 21st at 11:59 PM
 1. Award Subcommittee will be bringing recommendations to May Sustainability Commission Meeting
 - ii. Exhibitor Registration is also now open - Due April 21st at 11:59 PM
 - iii. Professional Agenda is complete for conference
 - iv. Register at www.delcopa.gov/sustaindelco2024
 - b. Campaign Sign Recycling - April 26th and 27th at Rose Tree Park
 - i. Looking for Volunteers
 - c. Earth Day Tree Planting and Park Clean Up - April 20th at William Penn Park in Chester, PA
 - i. Looking for Volunteers - Open to Public
 - d. Earth Month Events list created with suggestions from the last Sustainability Commission meeting.
 - i. Listings of County events, Keep Delco Beautiful Partner Events, and Other Community events can be found at www.delcopa.gov/earthday/communities
 - e. Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Update - All four county projects have been accepted to the regional application
 - i. LED Replacement at Submetering in George W. Hill Correctional Facility
 - ii. LED Replacement at Submetering in Fair Acres Geriatric Facility
 - iii. EV Charger Installation at Fair Acres Campus
 - iv. Creation of Composting Facility at Transfer Station #1
 - f. Priority Climate Action Plan for the Region is Complete for the Region. Can be found on DVRPC website at this link: <https://www.dvrpc.org/news/2024/priority-climate-action-plan-to-reduce-greenhouse-gas-emissions/#:~:text=Between%20April%202024%20and%20June,for%20the%20region%20by%2020250>.
 - g. Education and Outreach Subcommittee meeting to discuss Municipal Road Show Presentations
 - h. Following the Departmental Update commission member Jaclyn Rhoads asked for update on the 10-Year Municipal Solid Waste Plan
 - i. Becca Yurkovich shared that the County is looking to move forward with adopting the drafted municipal solid waste plan, as a County Zero Waste Plan. The Solid Waste Authority (DCSWA) would then be creating a different plan as their required compliance document for the PA DEP 10-year Municipal Solid Waste Plan in accordance with Act 101. It was noted that this is a different strategy than initially adopted and discussed before this group; however, this decision was made in following several discussions with the PA DEP and the DCSWA, which would ultimately be responsible for the implementation of the compliance document.

1. Brooks Stayer from DCSWA shared that they have been looking to move forward with whichever strategy is ultimately decided by the County Council.
 2. County Councilmember Elaine Schaefer provided additional context to this change noting that the majority of County Council made the decision to pursue two different paths: One that is in alignment with the County's Zero Waste aspirations and one that is a compliance document in adherence with the PA DEP requirements.
 3. Delaware County Executive Director Barbara O'Malley added that through her conversations with the PA DEP it was recommended that the County move forward with a more traditional compliance document for the required submission. She noted that this does not mean that the County cannot aspire to go above and beyond the prescribed actions in the compliance document, but it does not legally bind us to it. It was reiterated that a variety of input was taken into account to make this decision, and it was not a unanimous Council decision.
 4. Commission members shared their input and disappointment in this change.
 5. It was recommended that this discussion continue at the next meeting to provide additional context and perspective.
8. *Public Comment (SustainDelco@co.delaware.pa.us and from Zoom chat)*
- a. *Another member of the public commented that it seems as though the County has decided that Zero Waste is a nice to have, not a must have. The resident expressed their disappointment and shared that they felt the County is backsliding in its Zero Waste efforts.*
 - i. *Carol shared that we would be talking more about the plan and how to move forward in our next meeting.*
 - ii. *Commission members David Director and Jaclyn Rhoads shared additional feedback.*
9. Review Action Items from Last Meeting - Carol Martsolf
10. New Business – Carol Martsolf to ask group for new business
- a. Gina Burritt provided an update on the Walk, Roll, Delco project.
11. Set Action Items for Next Meeting - Carol Martsolf
- a. Deadline for Conference Awards is April 21st
 - b. Exhibitor Registration is due April 21st
 - c. Having additional speakers and discussion about 10-year municipal solid waste plan at the next meeting
 - d. Becca to share volunteer links for Earth Day and Campaign Sign Recycling
 - e. Discussion of how to present Commission ideas to County Council
 - f. Look into expanded community engagement opportunities for Sustainability Commission meetings
12. *Public Comment (SustainDelco@co.delaware.pa.us and from Zoom chat) -*
- a. *Corey Crews Williams asked how residents can get involved in subcommittees*
 - i. *It was shared that residents are welcome to participate in any subcommittees. It was recommended we put additional information on the website as to how to get involved with these groups.*
 - ii. *How is the Committee Leveraging IRA funds*
 1. *Becca Yurkovich shared the County had applied for funding under IRA SWIFR program for composting and was unsuccessful. Steve Clark also noted that the Commission is still awaiting guidance regarding state role out of the IRA programs.*
 - iii. *Who controls website?*

1. *Becca Yurkovich shared that Office of Sustainability updates website and offered to meet with Corey regarding specific concerns.*

13. Adjourn (4:00 PM) - didn't have quorum so no motion to adjourn. Meeting ended at 3:07 PM.