

Sustainable Maryland Committee Meeting Minutes September 9, 2024

Attendance

Melissa Klein

Janet Owens

Raquel Pichardo

Ian Reichardt

Jeremy Schwartz

Emanuel Wagner

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm.

Discussion

- (1) The Committee reported on meetings that were held by working groups to address, primarily (a) food waste and (b) EV infrastructure in Takoma Park, and (c) Climate Resilience.
 - (a) Food waste – The group discussed draft surveys were being prepared to elicit information from residences about their food waste management decisions and their knowledge and participation in the food waste curbside collection program. The group was trying to schedule a visit to a multi-family residence to better understand the complexities of setting up separate food waste collection from other trash. The team was also connecting with other municipalities to learn more about their education campaigns
 - (b) EV Infrastructure – The group discussed the steps for formulating an education campaign on available federal and state grant programs for residents, multi-family units, and businesses. Specifically, the team explored what information on grant programs is currently available on the Takoma Park website and what information should be developed and disseminated on the website. Given that both groups would be doing outreach to the same Takoma Park community, it was asked whether these activities should be combined.
 - (c) Climate Resilience- Melissa will reach out to the Emergency Preparedness Committee to better understand current and past actions the City is taking on this issue.
- (2) Dory provided an update from the Office of Sustainability.
 - a. Takoma Park will receive funding from MDOT for two fast EV chargers.
 - b. The library will receive solar grant funding.
 - c. The MD Municipal League will meet on November 7 to make Sustainable Maryland awards to participating communities.

- d. Takoma Park is hosting a walking tour, Thursday, September 12, 4-6pm of its sustainable projects.
- e. Takoma Park will organize Earth Day, April 26, 2025.

The Committee adjourned at 8:45pm.