

Sierra Club of Pennsylvania, Southeastern PA Group Executive Committee Meeting
January 8, 2014
Meeting at the Clean Air Council Office, 135 S. 19th Street

Attending: Pat Beaudet, Bill Brainerd, John Butler, Emily Davis, Anne Lovett, Jeanette MacNeille, Allan Walters, Dennis Winters, Jim Wylie
Not Attending: Mathew Himmelein

Dennis Winters call the meeting to order at 7:00*

Secretary: Minutes for November were approved as emailed

Treasurer: Dennis Winters

Account Balances:

C4 account:

Balance as of Sept. 30 2013: \$3804.69

Expenditures include: printing and postage of newsletter, IContact fees, distribution to Chester County subgroup.

Balance as of Dec. 31, 2013: \$787.81

C3 account:

Balance as of Dec. 31, 2013: 7095.89

Committee Reports

Newsletter: Jim has had CONVIO training. He suggested that the monthly newsletter be sent via CONVIO rather than IContact since this list reached a wider audience. Dennis pointed out that this would save us the cost of IContact fees.

Conservation Committee: Jim Wylie reported on local activities of the Beyond Coal Campaign. There will be a "True Cost of Coal" rally at EPA Region 3 headquarters (1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia) on January 29. Region 3 Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia so mountaintop removal is clearly an issue for the region. An information rally connected to this action will take place at Drexel University on January 21. Jim will let us know about a specific location. There will be a website for to sign up for the rally as well as for a petition. There will be a post card petition available at the Jan 29th rally. There are a coalition of groups sponsoring the rally. Jim and Sue Edwards are coordinating. <http://pacleanair.blogspot.com/p/mtr.html> for information.

Political Committee: Bill presented a list of candidates for early endorsement. He suggested that because of the large number of candidate that will be running in the May 21 Primary, we could endorse these "environmental stars" early. The petition process does not begin until February 18 and doesn't end until March 11 so that does not leave much time for the endorsement process.

He presented the following candidate with their environmental scores:

For US Congress:

Daylin Leach: US Representative, District 13

PA House of Representatives:

Santarsiero, Steven (D) – District 31

Bradford, Matthew (D) – District 70

Briggs, Tim (D) – District 149

Vitali, Greg (D) – District 166

Boyle, Kevin J. (D) – District 170

O'Brien, Michael H. (D) – District 175

Roebuck, James R. (D) – District 188

Brown, Vanessa Lowery (D) – District 190

Youngblood, Rosita C. (D) – District 198

Jeannette moved that the candidates presented on this list be endorsed. The motion was seconded by Bill. Dennis asked that the motion be amended to include Robert Brady and Chaka Fattah and delete Daylin Leach (Alison Schwartz's seat for which she may still run). The amended was second and approved. The motion with this amended passed unanimously. Bill will complete form 1 for the Chapter meeting this Saturday.

Members of the Bucks county sub group have indicated that they are interested in participation in the group endorsement process.

Nomination Committee: Dennis presented the results of the election. All those running for reelection will retain their seats and Len Finegold will be added to the Executive Committee.

The issue of Mathew Himmelein's seat on the executive committee was brought up. He has missed 3 consecutive meeting. Bylaws state "Any ExCom member who misses three regularly scheduled meetings over any continuous twelve-month period may be removed from the ExCom by a two-thirds vote of the other ExCom members." No action was taken.

Old Business:

Web Site: Jim Wylie volunteered to assist Sheila Startup with the web site. It was felt that a having a member of the executive committee taking an administrative roll would provide make the site more up to date. The web site needs to be kept updated and include links to other organizations and activities. Jim will also look into the management of the group's Facebook page.

Education Program: Bill reported that the next program will be on January 27 at CCP (1800 Callowhill St, Room C2-28) The topic is Marcellus Shale Gas Drilling in PA State Parks. John Norbeck will speak. Hwe was Gov. Corbett's Director of State Parks but was fired for refusing to allow drilling in them. The program is co-sponsored with the CCP Coalition for a Sustainable Future,

Anne suggested we make more connection will the people who attend these events and build an activist component.

Buck / Eastern Montgomery County Group Formation: It was reported that no action has taken place and that Dave Mizer, one of the primary leaders has left the group.

New Business:

Envirothon: Bill moved that we give \$250 to the Delaware County Envirothon. The motion was seconded. These funds would come from the C3 account. We have sponsored this event in the past. The motion passed.

Annual Report: Anne and Dennis will work on the blue sheet (annual report to national)

Announcements:

Contact Information: Please submit your contact information to Anne.

Environmental Summit: Delco's Concerned Citizens for Environmental Change is sponsoring its 9th Annual Delaware County Environmental Summit on Saturday, February 15, 2014. This year's theme is Innovative Strategies for Protecting Land: No money, no problem, because we will hear from others about ways to protect land from development through zoning, easements, and other innovative planning strategies. The event will be held at Cusano Environmental Education Center at the John Heinz Wildlife Refuge at 8601 Lindbergh Blvd., Philadelphia, PA. to register go to:

<http://delcoenvironmental.tripod.com/>

Next Meeting: February 12 (second Wednesday) at 6:45 at the Clean Air Office.

*President Anne Lovett arrived late.