



Delaware County Sustainability Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 13, 2025
Virtual Via Zoom



Commission Members		Other County Staff and Special Guests
PUBLIC MEMBERS (5 for Quorum)		
✓	David Director	
✓	Carol Martsolf	
✓	Julie Prey	
✓	Jaclyn Rhoads	
✓	Michael Schneller	
	Joi Washington	
✓	Justin Tibbels	
✓	Mike Fuller	
GOVERNMENT MEMBERS (4 for Quorum)		
✓	Dave Moser, SWA	
✓	Ron Aquilino	
✓	Anne Stauffer	
	Laura Goodrich-Cairns	
✓	Olivia Sansone	Sue DePompeo
✓	Karen Wilwol	

Commission Members		Other County Staff and Special Guests
✓	Becca Yurkovich	

1. Welcome, Roll Call, Sustainability Commission Terms Restated

- Meeting called to order by Jaclyn Rhoads.
Roll call conducted by Becca Yurkovich; quorum confirmed.
Interactive question: Members shared sustainable Thanksgiving tips (e.g., composting, reusable dishware, vegan meals, solar cooking idea).

2. Instructions for Public Comment

- Public encouraged to Zoom "Raise Hand" feature, chat, or email.
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3. Approval of October Meeting Minutes

- Motion to approve: Ron Aquilino
Seconded: David Director
Motion carried unanimously.
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4. New Business (Moved Up in Agenda)

- **Conservation District Nomination**
Motion to nominate Mike Leventry to the Conservation District Board: Ron Aquilino
Seconded: Anne Stauffer
Motion carried unanimously.
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5. Presentation - Delaware County Conservation District Tree Programs - Chris Cook, Watershed Specialist

Chris Cook presented on tree planting programs and resources including:

- Trees for Watersheds Grant (deadline 12/31/25)
- Tree Tenders Program
- Mini-Grants (DCCD)
- DCNR Urban & Community Forestry
- Keystone 10 Million Trees (final season)
- Live Stake Nursery at Smedley Park
- Conservation Trailer resources

Commission member Mike Fuller asked about Live Staking resources, and Chris recommended visiting the Penn State Extension website.

6. Subcommittee Updates

Energy (Michael Schneller):

- Shared draft of updated energy resources for the County website.
 - Sections include residential, commercial, and municipal energy efficiency.
 - Members are encouraged to review and provide feedback before the next meeting.
 - Members briefly discussed the status of Community Choice Aggregation in Delaware County Boroughs.
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7. Public Comment

- Jodine Mayberry inquired about accessing the energy resource document presented by Michael Schneller.
 - It was shared that the resources would be available on the Office of Sustainability website in the near future.
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8. Office of Sustainability Update (Becca Yurkovich & Olivia Sansone)

- **Salt Snapshot held October 1st - 11th:** 150+ sites and 17+ partners participated; improved data coverage across the region..
 - **Tree Planting held on October 18th:** Ridley Township and Delaware County Conservation District event supported by Office of Sustainability staff and volunteers.
 - **Campaign Sign Recycling held November 8th and 9th:** Over 5,100 lbs of signs and metal collected.
 - **Supply Swap held on November 13th and 14th:** Internal reuse event for County offices.
 - **Upcoming Community Engagement:** Presentations at Swarthmore College, EAC Regional Gathering, and labor/trade union panel in the City of Chester.
 - **Solar Panel Update:** Exploring PPA options with DVRPC.
 - **Sustainability Conference:** Planning underway; potential March 13, 2026 date at Swarthmore College.
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9. Sustainable Communities Hub (Olivia Sansone)

- Formerly EAC Hub - now Sustainable Communities Hub. Includes a broader set of resources environmental committees and municipalities.
 - Launch planned for January 14, 2026.
 - Information collection open Nov 17 – Dec 12.
 - Olivia shared a preview of site structure and features.
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10. Grant Discussion (Jaclyn Rhoads)

- Jaclyn Rhoads shared that the William Penn Foundation is expanding eligibility.

- Justin Tibbels shared that the City of Chester applied for a waterfront park feasibility study.
 - Chris Cook shared that the PRC “Protect Your Drinking Water” grant was announced.
 - DCNR C2P2 grant opens Jan 12, closes Apr 30.
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11. Member Sharing / Roundtable

- David Director shared updates on:
 - Philadelphia’s proposed incineration ban and relevance of Delco’s Zero Waste Plan.
 - Visit to Linvilla composting facility; cost savings potential.
 - Becca Yurkovich to testify at Philadelphia City Council hearing on behalf of Delco.
 - Swarthmore Borough is to begin compost pickup with EZ Compost, becoming the 2nd community in Delaware County with curbside composting.
 - Jaclyn Rhoads promoted the John Heinz Wildlife Refuge holiday nature store.
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12. Review of Action Items from Last Meeting

- Tree Canopy Study: GIS team to prepare municipal-level data bundles in 2026.
 - Zero Waste Plan cited in regional advocacy efforts.
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13. New Business (Jaclyn Rhoads)

- Proposal for a Sustainability Commission Retreat in May 2026.
 - Julie Prey offered the retreat could potentially be held at her work in Aston.
 - Members expressed support; May preferred due to scheduling conflicts in June.
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14. Set Action Items for Next Meeting (Jaclyn Rhoads)

- Members to review and comment on the Energy Subcommittee document.
 - Submit materials for Sustainable Communities Hub by Dec 12.
 - Staff to explore retreat logistics and potential locations.
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15. Public Comment

No additional comments received.

16. Adjournment

Motion: David Director
Second: Julie Prey
Meeting adjourned at 5:58 PM.