

**Sierra Club of Pennsylvania, Southeastern PA Group Executive Committee Meeting**  
**Zoom Video Conference Call**  
**October 3, 2018 Meeting**

**ExCom Members Attending:** Pat Beudet, John Butler, Sue Edwards, Jim Kaff, Alexa Manning, Dave Moscatello, Prasad Ramnath, Dennis Winters, JimWylie

Attending by Phone:

**ExCom Members Absent:** Ken Hemphill, Kevin Little,

**Other Members Attending:** Karen Melton, Abbie Wysor, Emily Davis

The Meeting was called to order by Dave. [Agenda](#)

Secretary: Minutes were approved as emailed

Treasurer: Dennis Winters

C4: Beginning Balance: \$13,371  
Income: \$ 0  
Expenditures: \$ 1,621 (including Coho, DSM, Website)  
Ending Balance:

C3: Beginning Balance: \$11,750

Treasurer's report was accepted

**Standing Committee Reports**

***Conservation Committee:*** (Jim Wylie)

Ready for 100: Resolutions up for vote next week in Haverford Tw and , East Bradford Twp

Future Energy Report from Dave

***Political Committee:***

Endorsement: no action at the state level. The Delaware county committee wants the chapter to revisit Christine Seale.

2019 local election: There was discussion of developing a questionnaire for the local races which could include items such as support for renewable energy, fossil-free SEPTA and plastic bag ban. The questionnaire could be used by a coalition of groups. Jim and Karen will work on this.

Campaign Support: The Bucks County group is having a rally for Wallace on the 20<sup>th</sup> of October.

Alexa is directing Chester County volunteers to Carolyn Committa,s campaign. Volunteers in Philadelphia are being directed toward Joe Hohenstein's campaign. They will also be driving people to the poles. Sue is working with volunteers and candidates. Robin has Sierra Club buttons volunteers could wear.

**Newsletter/Communications:** (Ken Hemphill)

A newsletter with endorsements will go out before the election.

Our SPG flyer needs to be updated . Pat will edit.

**Education Committee:** (Karen Melton / Kevin Little)

Jackie Williams will speak after a one hour November SPG meeting. The talk is part of the Huplits Grant in Wildlife Education. It will take place at City Coho.

Karen and Margaret Stephens are working on a CUSP Mini Grant (Franklin Institute) They are thinking about a film series on environmental justice. Sue and Kevin volunteered to assist

Tuesday Evening Volunteer calls: Karen wants to broaden the audience and would like to develop a survey. Sue will help develop survey and Jim will help with technology.

**Nomination Committee:** (Alexa Manning)

There will be 5 seats up for election. 6 people will be nominated. Candidate statements of 200 words or less should be sent to Prasad by November 30. On-line voting will be open for one month – from

Dec 1 to Jan 1. Jim will draft a recruitment notice with a job description which will be in the Newsletter.

**New Member Engagement:** (Prasad Ramnath / Pat Beaudet)

They continue to send out emails with surveys and will combine with Karen's survey. They will hold off until after the election because of other emails being sent.

Because some of the individuals participating in outings are not members or have only connected with club activities through outings, they will use outings to build a stronger relationship

**Outings:** (Jim Kaff, Amy Kwasnicki)

3 events were held including a kayak refinery tour, a canal walk and a cleanup at Tyler State park.

A tree planting event is scheduled for 10/27

**Old Business**

*Fossil Free Septa:* Sign-on to a letter was tentatively approved – once the letter is final, an email vote will be taken. A letter will be drafted for the transportation committee of the State legislature which will be sent first to Jen Quinn for review

*Events / activities:*

Green fest 9/9: Very rainy day, few attended. Good volunteer support.

Rise for Climate 9/8: Philadelphia: Climate Jobs for Justice: Marched from Love Park to Unitarian Church. Got attention by walking through Suburban station. Program at Church included 3 panels and a training in Non-Violent activities, about 300 attended.

Rise for Climate 9/8: West Chester: Speakers including Sergeant Gerald Brown, Maya Von Rossum and Diane Herron

Hidden River Boat Tour and pot luck: 9/29 Program was from Schuylkill River Development Corporation.

**New Business**

*EV Charging Station Grant:* John reported that Pennsylvania has a grant program for public EV charging station, both fast and level 2. He said PECO will also provide \$500 per cable. PA is also offering rebates for the purchase of a Plug-In vehicle.

*Plastic Bag Bans:* A number of Municipalities are considering Plastic Bag bans. Narberth has drafted legislation. West Chester is working on a resolution. In Philadelphia, Maurice Sampson of Clean Water Actions is working with Councilman Mark Squilla. Lower Merion and Haverford Township are also considering actions. Dave said to watch for activities at the state level.

**Announcements:**

**Meeting Call-in Number:**

1-866-501-6174, PIN is 1004100#.

## Agenda

- Treasurers Report – (2018 spreadsheet – excom only) Dennis
- Approve Sep mtg minutes – Emily
  
- Political endorsements Status – Jim W
- 2019 elections/endorsement planning – Karen has suggested we make the county commissioner races in the 4 suburban counties a priority. And all Phila city council members are up (that election will be in May, effectively). Can we make our own questionnaire or pledge – about supporting 100% renewable energy and plastic bag ban and fossil free SEPTA?
  
- Campaign support – Robin or Jim
  
- Education – Karen
  - Improving Tue night volunteer calls
  - Member survey about Ed programs
  - Planning for Nov Ed program at CoHo
  
- Communications – Ken, Sondra
  - Blog rotation
  
- SEPTA Gas Plant Status and more – Karen
  - Draft Letter to SEPTA chairman from SPG ExCom
  
- Reports from Greenfest, Climate, Jobs & Justice – Mena, Emily
  
- River Cruise/Dinner report – Pat
  
- Outings – Jim K, Amy
  - Oct 11 – ICO Social
  - Oct 27 – Tree Planting Tyler St Park
  
- Member Engagement – Prasad
  
- Nominations for 2019 SPG ExCom
  - Forming the NomCom.
  - Who is/is not running again. (Pat Beaudet, Sue Edwards, Ken Hemphill, Alexa Manning and Dave Moscatello terms ends in 2018)
  - Nominations due by ??

### Miscellaneous

SPG Flyer – running low on printed copies, so good time to update – volunteers?  
Plastic bag ban planning – and plastics in general  
PA EV charger rebate program  
Ready For 100 recent achievements  
Regional energy planning RFQ  
Lower Merion Sustainable Energy Workshop  
Haverford Twp, East Bradford Twp RF100 resolutions up for vote next week  
Future Energy Report from Dave (see below)

[Return](#)

## **Future Energy - Conservation Subcommittee Report October 2018 – DKM**

### **POLITICS**

#### **PowerPost**

#### **PowerPost** Analysis

### **The Energy 202: How Kavanaugh may get grilled about his environmental record**

By Dino Grandoni **The Washington Post** September 5, 2018 at 8:51 AM

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/paloma/the-energy-202/2018/09/05/the-energy-202-how-kavanaugh-may-get-grilled-about-his-environmental-record/5b8ed9821b326b3f31919f68/?utm\\_term=.a443d465bada](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/paloma/the-energy-202/2018/09/05/the-energy-202-how-kavanaugh-may-get-grilled-about-his-environmental-record/5b8ed9821b326b3f31919f68/?utm_term=.a443d465bada)

### **Kavanaugh's views on EPA's climate authority are dangerous and wrong**

Dana Nuccitelli, **The Guardian** September 10, 2018

<https://verizon.yahoo.com/news/kavanaugh-views-epa-climate-authority-100022193.html>

### **Trump administration rushes to lease federal lands**

Alexander Nazaryan **YAHOO! News** September 11, 2018

<https://verizon.yahoo.com/news/trump-administration-rushes-lease-federal-lands-090041852.html>

### **Open thread for night owls: Calif. lawmakers OK bill calling for 100% renewable electricity by 2045**

Meteor Blades, **Daily Kos Staff DAILY KOS** Tuesday August 28, 2018 · 11:00 PM EDT

<https://www.dailykos.com/stories/2018/8/28/1791742/-Open-thread-for-night-owls-Calif-lawmakers-OK-bill-calling-for-100-renewable-electricity-by-2045?detail=emaildksp>

#### **PowerPost**

#### **PowerPost** Analysis

### **The Energy 202: California pledges carbon-free electricity by 2045. Gov. Brown says: "This is not a one-off."** By Dino Grandoni **The Washington Post** September 11, 2018 at 8:37 AM

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/paloma/the-energy-202/2018/09/11/the-energy-202-california-pledges-carbon-free-electricity-by-2045-gov-brown-says-this-is-not-a-one-off/5b96c5d11b326b47ec959518/?utm\\_term=.ac25d4d709b7](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/paloma/the-energy-202/2018/09/11/the-energy-202-california-pledges-carbon-free-electricity-by-2045-gov-brown-says-this-is-not-a-one-off/5b96c5d11b326b47ec959518/?utm_term=.ac25d4d709b7)

### **FOSSIL FUEL ISSUES**

### **Sunoco gas pipeline spilled 33K gallons at Darby Creek**

By *Frank Kummer STAFF WRITER* **The Philadelphia Inquirer** Thursday September 6, 2018, pB2

### **Pipeline company found guilty in 2015 California oil spill**

Amanda Lee Myers and Robert Jablon, **Associated Press** September 7, 2018

<https://verizon.yahoo.com/news/pipeline-company-found-guilty-2015-003709196.html>

### **Investigation begins on ruptured natural gas line**

A 24-inch natural gas pipeline owned by Energy Transfer Partners ruptured early Monday morning, causing an explosion. Sergio Chapa | **SABJ**

By [Paul J. Gough](#) – Reporter, **Pittsburgh Business Times** Sep 10, 2018, 12:33pm EDT

<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2018/09/10/investigation-begins-on-ruptured-natural-gas-line.html?ana=yahoo&yptr=yahoo>

### **PGW has new plan for liquefied natural gas plant**

By *Andrew Maykuth STAFF WRITER* **The Philadelphia Inquirer** Friday September 21, 2018, pA9

### **City told closure is possible**

### **Penn study: Big challenges ahead for S. Phila. refinery.**

By *Andrew Maykuth STAFF WRITER* **The Philadelphia Inquirer** Friday September 21, 2018, pA9

The Penn report says the city should prepare for environmental issues if Philadelphia Energy Solutions closes.

### **Is The Bakken Close To Breaking?**

Nick Cunningham, Oilprice.com Sun, Sep 23, 2018 3:00 PM EDT

<https://verizon.yahoo.com/finance/news/bakken-close-breaking-190000422.html>

### **Florence's rains: Coal ash landfill collapses in Carolinas**

Michael Biesecker, Associated Press September 16, 2018

<https://verizon.yahoo.com/finance/news/florences-rains-coal-ash-landfill-collapses-carolinas-052143866--finance.html>

## **NUCLEAR POWER**

### **How to Jump-Start a Micro Nuclear Reactor Industry in the US**

Small and micro reactors could revitalize America's nuclear sector—with some policy changes—argues a new paper from The Breakthrough Institute, the R Street Institute and Clearpath.

[Julia Pyper](#) **Greentech Media** SEPTEMBER 27, 2018

<https://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/read/how-to-jumpstart-a-micro-nuclear-reactor-industry-in-the-us>

## **UTILITIES**

### **PSE&G's \$4.1B plan to save energy**

*The utility talks of "lifetime savings." But, critics say, in the shorter term, customers would be paying more.* By Andrew Maykuth STAFF WRITER The Philadelphia Inquirer Friday September 28, 2018, pA11

## **AIR POLLUTION & SMOG RULE**

**Wonkblog** Analysis

### **Researchers warn a common air pollutant is a driver of dementia, even at levels below current EPA standards**

By Christopher Ingraham The Washington Post September 5, 2018

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2018/09/05/researchers-warn-that-common-air-pollutant-is-driver-dementia-even-levels-below-current-epa-standards/?utm\\_term=.7f50dd0e39c1&wpisrc=nl\\_most&wpmm=1](https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2018/09/05/researchers-warn-that-common-air-pollutant-is-driver-dementia-even-levels-below-current-epa-standards/?utm_term=.7f50dd0e39c1&wpisrc=nl_most&wpmm=1)

## **REGULATION & POLICY**

### **While everyone is looking at the Senate, the EPA is being taken apart**

Mark Sumner, Daily Kos Staff DAILY KOS Friday September 28, 2018 · 12:08 PM EDT

<https://www.dailykos.com/stories/2018/9/28/1799629/-While-everyone-is-looking-at-the-Senate-the-EPA-is-being-taken-apart?detail=emaildkre>

## **CLIMATE CHANGE & ADAPTATIONS**

### **3.4 million poultry, 5,500 hogs drowned in Florence flooding**

Michael Biesecker, Associated Press September 19, 2018

<https://verizon.yahoo.com/news/1-7-million-chickens-drown-175600464.html>

### **Warmer Arctic waters attract surprising visitors: Clams, fish and whales**

By Devin Powell The Washington Post September 22, 2018

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/warmer-arctic-waters-attract-surprising-visitors-clams-fish-and-whales/2018/09/21/75c603bc-b532-11e8-a2c5-3187f427e253\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.5d9cbf0e417a&wpisrc=nl\\_az\\_most&wpmk=1](https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/warmer-arctic-waters-attract-surprising-visitors-clams-fish-and-whales/2018/09/21/75c603bc-b532-11e8-a2c5-3187f427e253_story.html?utm_term=.5d9cbf0e417a&wpisrc=nl_az_most&wpmk=1)

## RENEWABLE ENERGY

### WIND & SOLAR PROJECTS

#### **Utility Solar Procurement Booms as the Residential Market Stabilizes in Q2 2018**

Highlights from the latest U.S. Solar Market Insight report.

[Mike Munsell](#) **Greentech Media** September 13, 2018

<https://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/read/utility-solar-procurement-booms-as-residential-market-stabilizes-in-q2-2018>

### WIND MARKETS & POLICY

#### **Report: Offshore Wind Would Bring Over \$3.6 Billion in Economic Benefits to Atlantic Coast States**

Many of those states already have projects in the works.

[Emma Foehringer Merchant](#) **Greentech Media** September 04, 2018

<https://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/read/report-offshore-wind-would-bring-over-3-6-billion-in-economic-benefits-to-e>

#### **INDUSTRY PERSPECTIVE**

#### **Every State Will Win in the Race to Build Offshore Wind**

Alicia Barton And Joseph Fiordaliso **Greentech Media** September 10, 2018

<https://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/read/every-state-will-win-in-the-race-to-build-offshore-wind>

#### **New Jersey Approves Largest Single-State Offshore Wind Solicitation to Date**

The state is seeking 1,100 megawatts of offshore wind capacity to commence construction before federal tax credits expire. [Julia Pyper](#) **Greentech Media** September 18, 2018

*New Jersey plans to deploy 3,500 megawatts of offshore wind by 2030.*

<https://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/read/new-jersey-approves-largest-singe-state-offshore-wind-solicitation-to-date>

#### **IEA: Wind Will Be Europe's Largest Energy Source by 2027**

Once again, European wind growth estimates are revised upward.

[Jason Deign](#) **Greentech Media** SEPTEMBER 27, 2018

<https://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/read/iea-wind-to-be-europes-largest-energy-source-by-2027>

### ENERGY STORAGE

Climate Changed

#### **Residential Energy Storage Surging, No Longer Just a 'Cool Toy'**

By [Brian Eckhouse](#) Bloomberg *September 5, 2018, 5:00 AM EDT*

- Home installs outnumbered grid projects in second quarter
- Consumer installations concentrated in California and Hawaii

[https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-09-05/residential-energy-storage-surging-no-longer-just-a-cool-toy?utm\\_source=yahoo&utm\\_medium=bd&utm\\_campaign=headline&cmpId=yhoo.headline&ypr=yahoo](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-09-05/residential-energy-storage-surging-no-longer-just-a-cool-toy?utm_source=yahoo&utm_medium=bd&utm_campaign=headline&cmpId=yhoo.headline&ypr=yahoo)

#### **6 Charts Showing the Renewables Threat to Natural Gas**

Why build gas peakers when solar or wind plus energy storage is cheaper?

[Jason Deign](#) **Greentech Media** September 20, 2018

<https://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/read/6-charts-showing-the-renewables-threat-to-gas>

### ELECTRIC VEHICLES & TRANSPORTATION

## **Delta Electronics and GM want to speed up electric-car charging**

Stephen Edelstein, Digital Trends September 3, 2018

<https://verizon.yahoo.com/tech/delta-electronics-gm-want-speed-194341450.html>

## **States, Cities and Companies Unveil a Frenzy of New Electric Vehicle Commitments**

Startups Chargepoint and EVBox pledge millions of chargers by 2025, as cities and utilities up their clean transportation goals.

**Jeff St. John Greentech Media** September 14, 2018

<https://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/read/climate-summit-brings-new-electric-vehicle-charging-commitments>

### **ELECTRIC VEHICLES**

## **Tesla Semi demand shows no signs of slowing down**

Yoni Heisler, BGR News September 6, 2018

<https://verizon.yahoo.com/tech/tesla-semi-demand-shows-no-signs-slowing-down-010134839.html>

## **VW reveals the platform its electric future will be riding on**

**10 million EVs will use the new MEB vehicle platform**

Nick Kurczewski **autoblog** Sep 17th 2018 at 5:33PM

<https://www.autoblog.com/2018/09/17/vw-ev-meb-platform-10-million-electric-cars/?ncid=edlinkusauto00000021&ypr=yahoo>

### **CONSERVATION**

## **400 acres in Chesco sold for housing**

**Greystone Hall owners' deal includes giving parkland to township.**

By Vinny Vella Staff Writer **The Philadelphia Inquirer** Saturday September 8, 2018, pB2

## **Speaking of Science**

## **Toxic red tide algae moves north near Tampa Bay, killing hundreds of thousands of fish**

Florida's toxic algae bloom is having a devastating impact on marine life.

By Alex Horton **The Washington Post** September 9, 2018 at 11:08 AM

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/science/2018/09/09/toxic-red-tide-algae-moves-north-near-tampa-bay-killing-hundreds-thousands-fish/?utm\\_term=.366cba62cdf5&wpisrc=nl\\_az\\_most&wpmk=1](https://www.washingtonpost.com/science/2018/09/09/toxic-red-tide-algae-moves-north-near-tampa-bay-killing-hundreds-thousands-fish/?utm_term=.366cba62cdf5&wpisrc=nl_az_most&wpmk=1)

**The Switch** Perspective

## **The explosive problem with recycling iPads, iPhones and other gadgets: They literally catch fire.**

By **Geoffrey A. Fowler** Technology columnist **The Washington Post** September 11, 2018 at 12:23 PM

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2018/09/11/explosive-problem-with-recycling-ipads-iphones-other-gadgets-they-literally-catch-fire/?utm\\_term=.cbef98394d0a&wpisrc=nl\\_az\\_most&wpmk=1](https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2018/09/11/explosive-problem-with-recycling-ipads-iphones-other-gadgets-they-literally-catch-fire/?utm_term=.cbef98394d0a&wpisrc=nl_az_most&wpmk=1)

## **Money for more trees in the city**

By **Frank Kummer** STAFF WRITER **The Philadelphia Inquirer** Friday September 21, 2018, pB1

TreePhilly plans to expand its tree giveaway program. TD Bank has pledged about \$1.13 million for the program over three years starting in 2019. TreePhilly

## **Drumpf of the Month-Millennium:**

### **Health & Science**

## **Trump administration sees a 7-degree rise in global temperatures by 2100**

By Juliet Eilperin, Brady Dennis and Chris Mooney **The Washington Post** September 28, 2018 at 3:55 PM

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/trump-administration-sees-a-7-degree-rise-in-global-temperatures-by-2100/2018/09/27/b9c6fada-bb45-11e8-bdc0-90f81cc58c5d\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.5486aa581172&wpisrc=nl\\_most&wpmm=1](https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/trump-administration-sees-a-7-degree-rise-in-global-temperatures-by-2100/2018/09/27/b9c6fada-bb45-11e8-bdc0-90f81cc58c5d_story.html?utm_term=.5486aa581172&wpisrc=nl_most&wpmm=1)

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