

Sierra Club of Pennsylvania, Southeastern PA Group Executive Committee Meeting

March 6, 2019 Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/7825257851>

929 436 2866 Meeting ID: 782 525 7851

ExCom Members Attending: Pratima Agrawal, John Butler, Sue Edwards, Ken Hemphill, Jim Kaff, Kevin Little, , Dave Moscatello, Prasad Ramnath, JimWylie

ExCom Members Absent: Ann DiCampello, Dennis Winters

Other Members Attending: Pat Beaudet, Emily Davis, Karen Melton, Abby Wysor

The Meeting was called to order by Jim. [agenda](#)

Secretary: (Emily Davis) The minutes were approved as emailed.

Treasurer: (Dennis Winters)

C4: Beginning Balance:	\$19,897
Income:	\$ 1,150 (CUSP Grant, reimbursement)
Expenditure:	\$ 1,030 (R F 100, solar Car Race)
Ending Balance:	\$20,017
C3: Beginning Balance:	\$ 8,396
	\$ 150 (Solar Car Race to C4)
Ending Balance:	\$ 8,246

John Butler moved, Dave seconded that the 2019 budget be approved as presented in February. The motion passed.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/12snkImzwEg62XYLFTn4kvehaxal6cf7MOjgtNdfBmMk/e/dit#gid=0>

Emily will follow up on check to 350Philly for legal fees supporting the appeal of the air Quality permit.

Standing Committee Reports

Nomination Committee: no report

Conservation Committee: (Jim Wylie, Dave)

Ready for 100 – Bucks County, Ann

Ready for 100 – Jim

Includes towns recently signing resolutions and event

Ready for 100 – Philadelphia – Pratima

The team is planning an event: Powering our Neighborhoods in West Philadelphia. Campfire posting has been made for this event

Sunoco Sign-on letter: Jim moved and John seconded that we sign on to the Safety Over Sunoco (SOS) letter aimed at legislators in Harrisburgh.

The PGW LNG Plant bill is now on the council agenda. Only Helen Gym is voting against it. The RF100 team have joined with a coalition of organizations organizing their members to write or call council members

Future Energy - Dave

Political Committee: (Robin Mann, Jim Wylie)

The joint (LCV, Clean Water Action, Penn Environment) Philadelphia Questionnaire has been finalized. The team is still working on the suburban questionnaire. A link to the questionnaire will be sent to all candidates from the LCV office. Completed questionnaires are due on March 26.

Karen noted an error. Anyone else who wants to comment should contact Jim as the questionnaire cannot be edited on-line.

The other groups will make their endorsement decisions based on the questionnaire responses alone.

Newsletter/Communications:

Sondra Moore is working on the newsletter. She currently has 4 articles.

We need more work on social media – no one has posted.

Education Committee: (Karen Melton / Kevin Little, Pratima Agrawal)

Pratima has arranged a showing of the film Paris to Pittsburgh in at the Philosophical Society in Philadelphia. Campfire posting has been made for this event

New Member Engagement: Pat

Pat reported that an event is planned “Make a Difference in 2019 with the Sierra Club” on Sat. April 6, 10:30 - 12:30 pm at the Falls of the Schuylkill Library, 3501 Midvale Ave. Philadelphia

Dave Moscatello will talk about Sierra Club's renewable energy campaign -- Ready for 100

Learn about plastics in our daily lives and tackling plastics pollution from Meenal Raval

Karen Melton will discuss moving toward equitable, accessible, emission-free transit.

Pat asked about making a donation to the library. Jim said that it could be considered part of the membership budget and did not need to be approved by ExComm.

John suggested that we might consider donating a kilowatt meter that library patrons could check out of the library.

Outings: (Jim Kaff, Amy Kwasnicki)

Mabari reported that a number of activities have been planned for the youth program this spring including the Citizen Science Lab at the Seaport Museum, Splash Week partnering with the WMCA and a program at Bratram’s Garden. He is looking for volunteer chaperones or assistants. He will list all programs with the number of spaces on Campfire. He would like to incorporate messaging about Sierra Club campaigns into the programs.

[Outings report](#)

Announcements:

Meenal on G-Town Radio: Meenal has been speaking on the climate crisis on the radio.

April Meeting will be at CoHo

Meeting Call-in Number:

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

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Agenda:

Introductions

Approve Feb Mtg Minutes

Accept Treasurers Report

Approve 2019 Budget ??

Endorsement planning for 2019

shared questionnaire w/ Clean Water Action & Conservation Voters of PA

Philadelphia version (final)

Suburban version (draft)

Please do not share – official surveyMonkey invites will be sent to all candidates

I've been promised that we will get .pdf files (no stupid merging needed)

Approve: Safety Over Sunoco (SOS) Sign-On Letter, Rally in Harrisburg on Mar 19

Conservation plans for 2019 – see links below

Meet Mabari Byrd – Sierra Club Staff - Delaware Watershed Community Coordinator

Phila Member Engagement event planning (Apr 23?) – Pat

Member engagement – need volunteer chair to fill Prasad's shoes

Upcoming events and outings

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SPG Local Outings

We began a cycle of training new leaders with the OLT 101 classroom portion offered in Bucks County on February 23rd. There were 16 attendees, half of whom are part of SPG and representing Philly, Bucks, Chester County, and MontCo. (The other half are part of the Water Defenders initiative based in Bethlehem, PA.) Amy and the other members of the training team are working on getting these new leaders through the rest of their certification process. One, James, will be offering his first Outing on March 18th. Two other new leaders, Meredith and Werner, are offering Outings in March as well. Meredith's event is March 10th and posted to the MeetUp and Campfire. Amy is also offering an Outing on March 20th, (thanks to Carol for helping!).

April will be very busy! New Outings Leader Peter will launch intro to outdoor bouldering, we are participating in the City Nature Challenge with Outings being offered April 26th through April 28th. there will be another walking tour of Community Gardens, participation in the annual Darby Creek clean-up, and more Outings TBD!

Philly ICO

Philly ICO will resume trips with our partner agencies in April and continue into May. There are currently four events planned. We decided to move the monthly meetings to a quarterly face-to-face meeting, with the next one scheduled for April 11th. We will augment the meeting with true social nights, beginning this month (March.)

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Bucks RF100 is planning two spring events.

The first is a three way renewables focused presentation with tabling. The event will feature three presenters; myself representing RF100, Flora Cardoni the Penn Environment Climate Defender Campaign Director and Dara and Mark Bortman who own Exact Solar and can speak on renewables and the energy credit and business side of renewables. This event will be scheduled in May at the Middletown Township Building, I will keep you posted.

The second event is with Honey Hollow, Bucks County Audubon Society, for their renewable event day on April 13th. I, myself will be at this event tabling for RF100 and will keep you posted on times and sharing applications.

I will need to secure a good amount of literature for the tabling section of both events. I am thinking the electric car flyer, the 10 cities who transitioned booklet, the RF100 one page flyer ect. How can I go about getting this material?

Almost two years ago I did get a RF100 materials kit in the mail from Laura but most of that is gone except for the tee shirts. Is it possible to get an updated RF100 kit from Laura using our budget?

Thank you, Ann

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Ready For 100 News - Jim

Ready For 100 is on fire in southeastern PA. We are up to 10 resolutions passed. 2 more votes expected this week. One regional energy plan being commissioned. Probably 30+ EACs and boards know what Ready For 100 is and have engaged in a discussion. Probably double that if

you count the Regional Planning Commission reps that have seen presentations. In Philadelphia there is new energy because this is the election year for city council. The RF100/Bucks team is getting off the ground (see Ann's report above). Laura Comer, RF100 national organizer, is visiting next weekend (Mar 15-17), at Pratima's invite, to help with the Powering Our Neighborhoods event and meet all of the RF100 teams in this area. Jim is proposing a "re-org" of sorts – the creation of [5 support teams](#) – volunteers welcome.

Here is a list of articles, events and press releases you may not have seen.

- [Uwchlan Township](#) Passes Resolution
- [Radnor Township](#) Passes Resolution
- [Springfield Township](#) Passes Resolution
- (Schuylkill Twp and Conshohocken Boro expected to vote tonight)
- Huge [article in Pottstown Mercury](#) about Wylie & Sabey's presentation to the Pottstown Met RPC
- [West Chester Area Council Of Governments](#) selects a regional planning proposal from Cadmus Group to do energy transition planning for the greater West Chester area
- Wylie, Sabey, Kilgour invited to participate in [Reading: Building A Future of 100% Clean Energy](#) panel discussion Mar 9 at Reading Comm College
- [Powering Our Neighborhoods](#) event RE workshop and street theater with People's Emergency Center NAC and Councilwoman Blackwell on Mar 16
- [Paris to Pittsburgh](#) film showing in Philadelphia Apr 28
- [Renewable Energy Expo](#) – Mar 30 at West Whiteland Twp Building

Let's add to the momentum. The more buzz the better.

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Future Energy - Conservation Subcommittee Report March 2019 – DKM

POLITICS

Pa. budget to suggest new use for drilling tax

By Liz Navratil and Angela Coulombis Staff Writers The Philadelphia Inquirer Monday February 4, 2019, pB1

Forget fracking; Pa. needs a Green New Deal

WILL BUNCH The Philadelphia Inquirer Sunday February 17, 2019, pC3

COMMENTARY

It's time to declare war on throwaway culture | Opinion

Annie Leonard and Martin Bourque, for the Los Angeles Times. The Philadelphia Inquirer February 4, 2019

<https://www.philly.com/opinion/commentary/recycling-plastic-bags-berkeley-20190204.html>

COMMENTARY

The wrong choice for EPA

By Maureen Swanson The Philadelphia Inquirer Thursday February 7, 2019, pA14

WATER QUALITY

EPA chief pledges new limits for water. Change on PFAS contamination would be first in decades.

By Justine McDaniel and Laura McCrystal Staff Writers The Philadelphia Inquirer Friday February 15, 2019, pA1

The Energy 202: The Senate just saved a popular park conservation fund

By Dino Grandoni The Washington Post February 13, 2019 at 8:26 AM

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/paloma/the-energy-202/2019/02/13/the-energy-202-the-senate-just-saved-a-popular-park-conservation-fund/5c631b2d1b326b71858c6b66/?utm_term=.0b800857116e

POLICY

The Post's View Opinion

Want a Green New Deal? Here's a better one. By Editorial Board The Washington Post February 24, 2019

https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/want-a-green-new-deal-heres-a-better-one/2019/02/24/2d7e491c-36d2-11e9-af5b-b51b7ff322e9_story.html?utm_term=.a404a66a2418&wpisrc=nl_most&wpmm=1

FOSSIL FUEL ISSUES

Are Investors Finally Waking up to North America's Fracked Gas Crisis?

By Justin Mikulka • DESMOG Thursday, February 7, 2019 - 15:40

<https://www.desmogblog.com/2019/02/07/north-america-natural-gas-fracking-financial-crisis-investors>

State suspends review of pipeline company requests

By Laura Legere HARRISBURG BUREAU **The Philadelphia Inquirer** Saturday February 9, 2019, pB2

Delco files petition to join pipeline suit

By Robert Moran STAFF WRITER **The Philadelphia Inquirer** Friday February 22, 2019, pB3

Chesco could challenge pipeline deal

By Frank Kummer STAFF WRITER **The Philadelphia Inquirer** Friday March 1, 2019, pA9

Pinelands pipeline may be dead. Main reason for building it is moot, but gas firm may seek revised path for the future. *By Frank Kummer Staff Writer* **The Philadelphia Inquirer** Friday March 1, 2019, pB3.

CLIMATE CHANGE & ADAPTATIONS

World

Stark warning on melting Himalayan glaciers. AFP February 4, 2019

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/stark-warning-melting-himalayan-glaciers-115403767.html>

2018 was the fourth-warmest year on record

By Seth Borenstein ASSOCIATED PRESS **The Philadelphia Inquirer** Thursday February 7, 2019, pA3

Study sees dramatic shift in U.S. climate by 2080

Philadelphia and other Northern cities will take on a Southern flavor.

By Seth Borenstein ASSOCIATED PRESS **The Philadelphia Inquirer** Wednesday February 13, 2019, pA2

The Energy 202: One of world's biggest coal miners caps production amid climate concerns

By Dino Grandoni **The Washington Post** February 21, 2019 at 8:20 AM

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/paloma/the-energy-202/2019/02/21/the-energy-202-one-of-world-s-biggest-coal-miners-caps-production-amid-climate-concerns/5c6d9e6d1b326b71858c6be9/?utm_term=.881fd5e6684b

The Energy 202: Oregon pushes sweeping climate bill after Democrats win big in 2018

By Dino Grandoni **The Washington Post** February 22, 2019 at 8:10 AM

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/paloma/the-energy-202/2019/02/22/the-energy-202-oregon-pushes-sweeping-climate-bill-after-democrats-win-big-in-2018/5c6ef1a81b326b71858c6c04/?utm_term=.b347283eb9ad

National

Ruined crops, salty soil: How rising seas are poisoning North Carolina's farmland

By Sarah Kaplan **The Washington Post** March 1, 2019 at 7:27 PM

https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/ruined-crops-salty-soil-how-rising-seas-are-poisoning-north-carolinas-farmland/2019/03/01/2e26b83e-28ce-11e9-8eef-0d74f4bf0295_story.html?utm_term=.5a9222ede05e&wpisrc=nl_most&wpm=1

NUCLEAR POWER

PowerPost Analysis

The Energy 202: Should nuclear plants get a bailout in the name of climate change? Pennsylvania debates

By **Paulina Firozi** **The Washington Post** February 26, 2019

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/paloma/the-energy-202/2019/02/26/the-energy-202-should-nuclear-plants-get-a-bailout-in-the-name-of-climate-change-pennsylvania-debates/5c740c5f1b326b71858c6c29/?utm_term=.749d8bfda7e7&wpisrc=nl_green&wpmm=1

The Energy 202: Green New Deal is already sparking debate over nuclear energy

By Dino Grandoni **The Washington Post** February 11, 2019 at 8:23 AM

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/paloma/the-energy-202/2019/02/11/the-energy-202-green-new-deal-is-already-sparking-debate-over-nuclear-energy/5c6068621b326b66eb098676/?utm_term=.1972a9d0153f

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Business

The next money crop for farmers: Solar panels

By Genevieve Bookwalter **The Washington Post** February 22, 2019

https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/economy/the-next-money-crop-for-farmers-solar-panels/2019/02/22/2cf99e8c-3601-11e9-854a-7a14d7fec96a_story.html?utm_term=.b5399bbc0056

SOLAR-PLUS-STORAGE

Sunrun Wins Big in New England Capacity Auction with Home Solar and Batteries. Julian Spector **Greentech Media** February 07, 2019.

The 20-megawatt contract is small by power plant standards, but marks a crucial proof point for the theory that clean, decentralized energy devices can deliver reliable power to the grid.

<https://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/read/sunrun-wins-new-england-capacity-auction-with-home-solar-and-batteries>

ELECTRIC VEHICLES & TRANSPORTATION

SPECIAL REPORT | UNJAMMING PHILLY

Why Is Philly Stuck in Traffic?

Center City growth has brought choking congestion: Rising car and bike traffic, an explosion of delivery trucks, construction blockages. Other cities have solved these problems. Can we?

By **JASON LAUGHLIN** | Staff Writer **The Philadelphia Inquirer** Sunday February 3, 2019, pA1

A.C. rail line to be back on May 24. This did not appease people at a hearing in Cherry Hill about the service, shut down in 2018. *By Amy S. Rosenberg and Jason Laughlin Staff Writers* The Philadelphia Inquirer Thursday February 28, 2019, pB3

Pa. rolls toward street scooters. A proposed state law could legalize these wheels on the road. But some in city government are growing wary. *By Samantha Melamed Staff Writer* The Philadelphia Inquirer Thursday February 28, 2019, pB1

CONSERVATION

Deadline on the Schuylkill

A rowing group races to come up with \$4.5M, or risk losing regattas.

By Frank Kummer Staff Writer The Philadelphia Inquirer Monday February 4, 2019, pB1

Guilty plea in endangered-turtle sales

Bucks County man went to New Jersey swamps to get animals and eggs.

By Frank Kummer Staff Writer The Philadelphia Inquirer Tuesday February 5, 2019, pB1

It could be official amphibian.

Salamander getting renewed support

By Marc Levy Associated Press The Philadelphia Inquirer Wednesday February 6, 2019, pB3

Payouts could hurt dune plan

2 Shore homeowners win awards for loss of property and views.

By Wayne Parry Associated Press The Philadelphia Inquirer Saturday February 9, 2019, pB1

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Power, with a chance it's meatball

Sewage plant also uses grease, pancake batter for operations. And it has a money-making farm.

By Frank Kummer Staff Writer The Philadelphia Inquirer Tuesday February 12, 2019, pA1

Senate backs major conservation bill

The measure would create more than 1.3 million acres of wilderness and create four monuments.

By Matthew Daly Associated Press The Philadelphia Inquirer Wednesday February 13, 2019, pA3

POLLUTED WATER. EPA will propose PFAS plan in Phila. Drinking water has been affected nationwide; locally, in 22 towns near former bases. *By Laura McCrystal and Justine McDaniel* STAFF WRITERS The Philadelphia Inquirer Thursday February 14, 2019, pA1

The message was sustainability. 100 days of one dress end

By Melanie Burney STAFF WRITER The Philadelphia Inquirer Thursday February 14, 2019, pB1

\$6M for Delaware River in federal budget deal

Funds to be used to restore fish and wildlife habitat, protect the watershed, and ensure cleaner water.

By Frank Kummer STAFF WRITER The Philadelphia Inquirer Saturday February 16, 2019, pB3

Global warming claims a victim. Australian rodent is the first mammal to go extinct from human-caused climate change. *By Ben Guarino and Lindsey Bever Washington Post The Philadelphia Inquirer Thursday February 21, 2019, pA2.*

COMMENTARY

Animal refuge fights Trump's border wall

WILL BUNCH The Philadelphia Inquirer Wednesday February 27, 2019, pA11

DRUMPFS OF THE MONTH:

Trump's Cabinet is So Corrupt, Polluters Don't Even Need Lobbyists Any More

ClimateDenierRoundup Community **DAILY KOS** Friday February 01, 2019 · 9:47 AM EST

<https://www.dailykos.com/stories/2019/2/1/1831420/-Trump-s-Cabinet-is-So-Corrupt-Polluters-Don-t-Even-Need-Lobbyists-Any-More?detail=emaildkcs>

The Post's View Opinion

How many Trumps does it take to not change a lightbulb? By Editorial Board The Washington Post February 11, 2019 at 7:21 PM

https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/how-many-trumps-does-it-take-to-not-change-a-lightbulb/2019/02/11/f2c02942-2b20-11e9-984d-9b8fba003e81_story.html?utm_term=.df62b87a47d3&wpisrc=nl_most&wpmm=1

Opinions

Trump's sacrifices are hard. You think it's easy working 11 to 5?

By Dana Milbank Columnist **The Washington Post** February 12, 2019 at 6:10 PM

https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/trumps-sacrifices-are-hard-you-think-its-easy-working-11-to-5/2019/02/12/0495d612-2f04-11e9-86ab-5d02109aeb01_story.html?utm_term=.53d169eb2b34&wpisrc=nl_most&wpmm=1

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