

# Sierra Club of Pennsylvania, Southeastern PA Group Executive Committee Meeting

## Wednesday, October 2 Meeting City Coho – 2401 Walnut Street, Philadelphia

**ExCom Members Attending:** Tim Beckham, John Butler, Sue Edwards, Kevin Little, Dave Moscatello, JimWylie

**ExCom Members Absent:** Pratima Agrawal, Jim Kaff,

**Other Members Attending:** Meenal Raval, Emily Davis, Karen Melton

The Meeting was called to order by Jim. [agenda](#)  
Secretary: the minutes were approved as corrected

Treasurer: (Emily Davis) as of October 1, 2019 – The report was accepted

**C4: Beginning Balance: \$18,990.97**

Checking

Beginning Balance: \$15,062.30  
Income: \$ 5,318.39  
Expenditure: \$ 1,928.87  
Loan Repayment-1/2 \$ 5,000.00  
Ending Balance: \$13,451.82

PayPal

Beginning Balance: \$ 3,928.67  
Income: \$ 344.73  
Expenditures: \$ 145.89  
Ending Balance: \$ 4,127.51

**C4 Ending Balance: \$17,579.33**

**C3: Beginning Balance: \$13,609.14**

Income: \$ 1,250.00  
Expenditures: \$ 0.0  
Ending Balance: \$14,859.14

C4: Accounts:

Restricted:

Don't Spray Me: \$ 3,513.82  
Clean Energy Tour: \$ 825.45  
RF 100 – Phila \$ 271.45  
RF100 – Burbs negative  
Pipelines \$ 672.24

Total Restricted = \$ 5,282.96

Note: does not include any allocations from the group for 2019, does include 2018 allocations

Unrestricted C4 funds = \$12,296.37

3 requests for C3 funds have been made for a total of \$737.25

### Standing Committee Reports

#### Nomination Committee:

There are 4 open seats, 2 with terms ending in 2021 and 2 with terms ending is 2020. Jim Kaff, John Butler, Kevin Little and Jim Wylie have terms expiring at the end of 2019. A nominating Committee constituted of 2 current members (not running, (Sue Edwards, Dave Moscatello, Pratima Agrawal) plus one person not on the excomm. Several possible candidates were suggested (Meenal Ravel, Neil Gale (Jim W.), Soosy Pothan (Pratima). Sue will ask Robin if she is willing to serve on the committee.

#### Conservation Committee: (Jim Wylie, Dave)

**Ready for 100:** Philadelphia City Council passed the Ready for 100 Resolution. The team is now trying to connect with other concerned groups to develop a plan for moving this to reality.

**Air Monitoring:** John is working with the Chester Environmental Partnership to measure air quality and connect to health assessments. Three Air Monitors will be installed. Widener University will be installing a monitor.

**Future Energy:** (Dave)

**Political Committee:** (Robin Mann, Jim Wylie)

The Chester County team presented the following candidates for endorsement

Brian Sweet        East Goshen Township Supervisor  
Tom McDonald    East Goshen Township Supervisor  
Kevin Houghton   West Bradford Township Supervisor  
Mayme Baumann   Uwchlan Township Supervisor  
Kim Doan         Uwchlan Township Supervisor

The Philadelphia team presented Kendra Brooks, City Council at Large, for endorsement

All candidates were unanimously approved for endorsement. The team expects to present and addition candidate, Sara Shick (West Vincent Township Supervisor). This candidate and several others will be voted on via on-line meeting.

[Minutes to Special Email Vote](#)

**Newsletter/Communications:**

The Sylvanian, the chapter newsletter has replaced our group newsletter. Karen and Sondra Moore put it together. Of the 8 articles in the September Issue, 6 were written by members of our group. The next newsletter will come out in mid-December. The deadline for articles is November 15. Karen will be reaching out for articles.

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

**Member Engagement:** (Pat Beaudet)

We had a very good response to the boat trip to Bartram's Garden which will take place on October 6. It sold out (35 seats) in two weeks. I think the riverboat events continue to be popular and satisfy our responsibility as a Sierra Club group to provide membership services. Oddly enough, most of the registrants are coming from outside the city. Amy Kwasnicki and I are co-leaders. People would like to see more such events. We need to retrieve \$770 that went to the Chapter's account I think.

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

The new Chapter Outings Leaders are Meredith Nutting and Warner Lambert, Amy will continue as out outings Chairperson. Mabari Bird will coordinate outings for Veterans and Youth.

Hickory Run Chapter Outing Weekend was great! Over 100 people, multiple programs. Save the date for next year August 14-16, 2020 (*awaiting DCNR approval which won't happen until March 2020*). The monthly hikes at Heinz Refuge are being moved to Fairmont Park where we can stay out later and enjoy the full moon — the first one is November 3rd. The October Boat to Bartram's is at capacity but we've got more trips in the pipeline. For the month of October we've got a West Philly garden tour with the Neighborhood Gardens Trust, a hike in Pennypack, Bouldering in Sourland, Tree Planting in Neshaminy Creek and a 19 mile hike from Bull's Island to Frenchtown. Sign up for any of these through Campfire.

**Old Business**

**Fund Raising Report**

Via Paypal:	\$2,890.61
	\$ 142.60 Pledged via paypal (fee not subtracted)
By Check:	\$ 940.00
Matching:	<u>\$5,000.00</u> , C4, \$5,000 C3
Total =	\$8,973.21 (C4), \$5,000 (C3)
From 37 donors	

### **Clean Energy Tour in Chester County**

The Chester County Ready for 100 team is organizing a clean energy tour of homes and businesses in Chester County. They have set up 4 loops, doing each loop twice. Sites include examples of roof top solar, geothermal and passive solar. There will be a debrief session at Victory Brewing Company in Downingtown at 4:00.

### **Hulplits Grant:**

Funds from the support wildlife presentations for groups from schools, youth groups or community groups. If anyone has suggestions for groups to whom presentations might be given, contact Karen Melton.

### **New Business**

#### **Bucks County Friction:**

Bucks has had no RF 100 team. Jim met with Prasad and Sharon about forming a team. They had difficulty setting up a meeting so Jim recruited Jim Baldasarri to run a meeting. The meeting took place at Delaware Valley University on September 19<sup>th</sup> and was attended by 20 people. The Bucks County team was upset because they felt the RF 100 project was being forced on them to the exclusion of other campaigns and their local issues.

#### **Presentations on Climate Change Available:**

Tim Beckham has developed a program on climate change with a slide deck that can run from 20 minutes to an hour. He is looking for sites. He will share the slide deck.

### **Announcements:**

#### **Meeting Call-in Number:**

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

[return](#)

**Special SPG ExCom Meeting via email**

October 7-9

Endorsement vote

Jim circulated the endorsement requests, questionnaires and interview notes from the candidates listed below. A vote was conducted via email. All candidates were recommended for endorsement

Sharon Humble – Tredyffrin Township Supervisor (7 yes / 0 No)

Julie Gosse - Tredyffrin Township Supervisor (7 yes / 0 No)

Eric Matuszak – East Marlborough Township Supervisor (7 yes / 0 No)

Brian Sachs – London Britain Township Supervisor (7 yes / 0 No)

Bret Binder- Chester County Court of Common Pleas (7 yes / 0 No)

Ashley Gagné – West Goshen Township Supervisor (6 yes / 1 No)

Sara Shick – West Vincent Township Supervisor (7 yes / 0 No)

[return](#)

## Agenda

- **Introductions -**
- **Approve Sep Meeting Minutes ([all of our minutes](#))**
- **Treasurer's Report**

## Fund Raising Report

**Via Paypal: \$2,890.61**

**142.60 Pledged (fee not subtracted)**

**By Check: 940.00 + 5,000 + 5,000**

**Total = \$13,973 21 (From 35 donors)**

## **Endorsements –**

- Montco commissioners and Middletown Twp (Delco) candidates were by chapter.
- Candidates for SPG ExCom consideration at Oct 2 meeting:
  - **Brian Sweet**, East Goshen Supervisor
    - [Endorsement request](#) (interview notes included)
    - [Questionnaire](#)
  - **Tom McDonald**, East Goshen Supervisor (2 seats open)
    - [Endorsement request](#) (interview notes included)
    - [Questionnaire](#)
  - **Kevin Houghton**, West Bradford Supervisor
    - [Endorsement request](#) (notes included)
    - [Questionnaire](#)
  - **Mayme Baumann**, Uwchlan Twp Supervisor
    - [Endorsement request](#) (interview notes included)
    - [Questionnaire](#)
  - **Kim Doan**, Uwchlan Township Supervisor (2 seats open)
  - **Kendra Brooks**, Philadelphia, City Council at-large
    - [Endorsement request](#) (notes included)
    - [Questionnaire](#)
  - **Sara Shick**, West Vincent Supervisor (withdrawn)
    - [Endorsement request](#) (notes included)
    - [Questionnaire](#)
  - **Kendra Brooks**, candidate for Phila City Council-at-large
    - [Endorsement request](#)
    - [Questionnaire](#)
- **Newsletter**
  - September newsletter was published on schedule -- once again a lot of the articles came from SE writers
  - Next newsletter is targeted for mid-December, with articles due mid-November. Karen will be reaching out in October to solicit articles and ideas.

- **Nominating candidates for Dec SPG ExCom election**
  - Expiring Terms end of 2020: Agrawal, Edwards, Moscatello, **open, open**
  - Expiring Terms end of 2019: **Wylie**, Butler, Kaff, **Little, open, open**
  - So we have 2 open seats for a 1 year term, and 2 open seats for a 2 year term.
  - We need to confirm that Wylie, Butler, Kaff and Little want to run for another 2 year term.
  - **We need at least 4 candidates.**
  - We need a Nominating Cmte (2 Excom members that are not running - so that's Agrawal, Edwards or Moscatello, and 1 non-ExCom member that is not running)
  
- Jim has 2 names to consider: **Meenal Raval** (Philly), **Neil Gale** (Montco - not)
- Pratima has 1 name to consider: **Soosy Pothan**
- Emily & Sue have 1 name: Walter
- Sue to ask Robin to serve on NomCom.
  
- **Calendar/Events**
  - Oct 6 - [Boat Ride to Bartrams](#) - Pat added an update which appears at the very end of the agenda. Not sorry.
  - Oct 19 - Chester County - [Clean Energy Tour](#)
  
- **Outings**
  
- **Bucks County Friction**
  
- **Conservation**
  - RF100
  - Refinery in Phila - this is what I sent on 10/1 -- [How about a hemp based regenerative industry?](#)
  - PFAS in Warminster
  - Air Monitor in Chester
  - Plastic Bags
  
- **New Business**
  - Air monitor in Chester. Should be installing a total of three. Wid.ener university will be installing one. University also is supporting EE2019
  - Attended another CEP meeting at Monroe Industry. Concern was the use of the same acid that was used in Phila. Also review of any violations. Supplied them with information on shore power grants that could be used for .tankers when in port.

Sale of Delcora to Aqua will divert more sewerage to Chester were the sludge is burned vs plant at airport were it is converted to Methane for heating and electricity and balance is landfilled.

Chester Kimberly Clark paper mill is being upgraded to shut down their coal boiler and .changing to NG.

- HUPLITS wildlife presentations -- if SPG members or friends know of schools or community groups that would be interested in a wildlife presentation let Karen know who to follow up with.

Would like to see the use of the old LOGICS questionnaire to have towns complete to see where they are on energy efficiency

### Recycling

Big issues with costs and lack of markets. Marple is billed \$90 a ton on glass so may drop it out of single stream next year. Mixed paper has zero value .All of Delco has the same issue.

Wanted to see a donation to Not IN Phila who is doing litter cleanup block by block in the city with potential to expand outside of city.

[Return](#)

## Future Energy - Conservation Subcommittee Report October 2019 – DKM

### Politics

**Energy Dept. scraps rule on energy-efficient bulbs.** By Steven Mufson Washington Post The Philadelphia Inquirer Thursday September 5, 2019, pA3

**Pa. Senator Found to Have No Legal Say Over Pipeline. Dinniman's complaint to be dismissed.**

By Andrew Maykuth Staff Writer The Philadelphia Inquirer Tuesday September 10, 2019, pA7

**Amid PFAS debate on Hill, firms prodded.** Lawmakers pressed 3M, DuPont, and Chemours on chemicals they used. By Laura McCrystal and Justine McDaniel The Philadelphia Inquirer Wednesday September 11, 2019, pA2

### Politics

**Democrats step on shaky political ground with fracking bans.** Nicholas Riccardi, Associated Press Tue, Sep 10, 2019. <https://www.yahoo.com/news/democrats-step-shaky-political-ground-221343826.html>

**Repealing the Clean Water Rule Will Swamp the Trump Administration in Wetland Litigation.** Patrick Parenteau, The National Interest September 24, 2019.

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/repealing-clean-water-rule-swamp-094000123.html>

### POLICY

**MIXING ENERGY AND POLITICS On climate-change action, Pa. called 'a lagger'**

By Justine McDaniel Staff Writer The Philadelphia Inquirer Thursday September 19, 2019, pA1

**23 states file suit to keep Calif.'s emission waiver.** By Adam Beam ASSOCIATED PRESS The Philadelphia Inquirer Saturday September 21, 2019, pA3

### FOSSIL FUEL ISSUES

Nuclear power decision crucial. By Hugh Hewitt The Philadelphia Inquirer Thursday September 5, 2019, pA15. The next target in the climate-change debate: your gas stove. By Valerie Volcovici and Nichola Groom, Reuters September 9, 2019. <https://www.yahoo.com/news/next-target-climate-change-debate-113908968.html>

**Paradise is finally dying ... and that's a very good thing.** Mark Sumner Daily Kos Staff DAILY KOS Saturday August 31, 2019.

<https://www.dailykos.com/stories/2019/8/31/1882677/-Paradise-is-finally-dying-and-that-s-a-very-good-thing?detail=emaildksp>

**Court rules against gas firm on pipeline.** PennEast wanted to acquire state-owned properties in N.J. through eminent domain. By David Porter ASSOCIATED PRESS The Philadelphia Inquirer Wednesday September 11, 2019, pA8

**Report: Cleanup of abandoned oil, gas wells could cost US.** Matthew Brown, Associated Press September 19, 2019. <https://www.yahoo.com/news/report-cleanup-abandoned-oil-gas-233417132.html>

### NUCLEAR ENERGY



**R.I.P., TMI.** At noon, reactor undamaged in 1979 accident went offline. By Andrew Maykuth The Philadelphia Inquirer Saturday September 21, 2019, pA5

Chesco DA warns of suit if pipeline issues not fixed  
By Andrew Maykuth STAFF WRITER The Philadelphia Inquirer Wednesday September 25, 2019, pB2

#### CLIMATE CHANGE & ADAPTATIONS

**City needs to declare a climate emergency.** By Tiara Campbell The Philadelphia Inquirer Tuesday September 3, 2019, pA10

**Climate change will mean new record floods—and new breaches of toxic coal ash basins.** Hunter for Daily Kos Daily Kos Staff DAILY KOS Monday September 02, 2019 · 7:50 PM EDT

<https://www.dailykos.com/stories/2019/9/2/1881498/-Climate-change-will-mean-new-record-floods-and-new-breaches-of-toxic-coal-ash-basins?detail=emaildkre>

**Alaska's Sea Ice Completely Melted for First Time in Recorded History.** By Dahr Jamail, Truthout Published September 3, 2019  
<https://truthout.org/articles/alaskas-sea-ice-completely-melted-for-first-time-in-recorded-history/>

**An unwanted sequel to the 'Blob' hits the Pacific.** A new marine heat wave could wreak havoc on land and at sea. By Andrew Freedman and Lauren Tierney Washington Post The Philadelphia Inquirer Sunday September 22, 2019, pA17

**W. Antarctica's crumbling ice sheet to redraw global coastline.** Marlowe Hood, AFP September 23, 2019  
<https://www.yahoo.com/news/w-antarcticas-crumbling-ice-sheet-redraw-global-coastline-074017219.html>

#### RENEWABLE ENERGY & ENERGY EFFICIENCY

**Wawa is going solar at 93 stores across N.J.** By Frank Kummer STAFF WRITER The Philadelphia Inquirer Wednesday September 11, 2019, pB2

**Solar and Wind Power So Cheap They're Outgrowing Subsidies.** Mark Chediak and Brian Eckhouse, Bloomberg September 19, 2019  
<https://www.yahoo.com/finance/news/solar-wind-power-cheap-outgrowing-100016234.html>

**Dominion planning large wind farm off Virginia coast.** Sarah Rankin, Associated Press September 19, 2019  
<https://www.yahoo.com/news/dominion-energy-plans-220-turbine-125632204.html>

**Solar, Wind Are Now Cheaper Than Coal In Most Of The World.** Haley Zaremba, Oilprice.com September 28, 2019.  
<https://www.yahoo.com/finance/news/solar-wind-now-cheaper-coal-210000650.html>

#### UTILITY-SCALE SOLAR

**ERCOT's Wild Summer Is Over. Solar Looks Like the Winner.** Texas' power grid danced near the supply-demand edge this summer. Experts weigh in on what it means for renewables. Karl-Erik Stromsta Greentech Media September 24, 2019

<https://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/read/ercots-wild-summer-is-over-solar-looks-like-the-winner>

## ENERGY STORAGE

**Holtec to expand into renewable energy.** Camden nuclear firm's joint venture with Eos Energy Storage will produce utility-scale batteries at a plant near Pittsburgh. By Andrew Maykuth The Philadelphia Inquirer Wednesday September 11, 2019, pA7

**How China is Cornering the Lithium-ion Cell Recycling Market.** 100,000 tons of batteries may be recycled this year — almost all of it in Asia. Jason Deign Greentech Media September 11, 2019.

China recycled around 67,000 tons of lithium-ion batteries last year, or 69 percent of all the stock available for recycling worldwide ... Another 18,000 tons was recycled in South Korea, mostly for the Chinese market.

Even today, about 80 percent of lithium-ion batteries reaching end of life are from portable electronic devices.

<https://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/read/how-china-is-cornering-the-lithium-ion-cell-recycling-market>

**Storing energy in compressed air could finally become cheap enough for the big time.** By Akshat Rathi QUARTZ September 19, 2019. [https://qz.com/1711536/canadian-startup-hydrostor-is-storing-energy-in-compressed-air/?utm\\_source=YPL&yptr=yahoo](https://qz.com/1711536/canadian-startup-hydrostor-is-storing-energy-in-compressed-air/?utm_source=YPL&yptr=yahoo)

## ELECTRIC VEHICLES & TRANSPORTATION

**Asian cities turn to electric vehicles in anti-pollution drive.** By Rina Chandran, Thomson Reuters Foundation, Reuters Fri, Sep 6, 2019 1:23 AM EDT  
<https://www.yahoo.com/news/asian-cities-turn-electric-vehicles-052335704.html>

**Electric vehicle startup Rivian gets a jolt from big Amazon.com van order.** By Ben Klayman, Reuters September 19, 2019  
<https://www.yahoo.com/finance/news/electric-vehicle-startup-rivian-gets-172001977.html>

**The Problem With Switching to Electric Cars.** Andrew Small CityLab SEP 23, 2019. Switching to EVs en masse could help bring down planet-killing carbon emissions. **But Americans also need to drive less, right now.**  
[https://www.citylab.com/transportation/2019/09/electric-vehicle-climate-carbon-emissions-impact-solution/598453/?utm\\_medium=offsite&utm\\_source=yahoo&utm\\_campaign=yahoo-non-hosted&yptr=yahoo](https://www.citylab.com/transportation/2019/09/electric-vehicle-climate-carbon-emissions-impact-solution/598453/?utm_medium=offsite&utm_source=yahoo&utm_campaign=yahoo-non-hosted&yptr=yahoo)

## CONSERVATION

**Irresponsible people are ruining a paradise known as Valley Green.** By B.G. Kelley The Philadelphia Inquirer Tuesday September 3, 2019, pA11

**Trump wants the national parks to generate revenue; critics see creeping privatization.** Alexander Nazaryann Yahoo! News September 3, 2019  
<https://www.yahoo.com/news/trump-wants-the-national-parks-to-generate-revenue-critics-see-creeping-privatization-151558607.html>

**Pa. must meet commitment to Chesapeake Bay.** By Gina McCarthy and William Reilly The Philadelphia Inquirer Wednesday September 4, 2019, pA14

S. Jersey stalk grows 29 ears. By Joseph A. Gambardello STAFF WRITER The Philadelphia Inquirer Wednesday September 11, 2019, pB2

Climate and Environment

**Administration finalizes repeal of 2015 water rule Trump called ‘destructive and horrible’.** By Juliet Eilperin and Brady Dennis The Washington Post September 11, 2019. [https://beta.washingtonpost.com/climate-environment/administration-finalizes-repeal-of-2015-water-rule-trump-called-destructive-and-horrible/2019/09/11/fddfa49a-d4aa-11e9-9343-40db57cf6abd\\_story.html?wpisrc=nl\\_most&wpmm=1](https://beta.washingtonpost.com/climate-environment/administration-finalizes-repeal-of-2015-water-rule-trump-called-destructive-and-horrible/2019/09/11/fddfa49a-d4aa-11e9-9343-40db57cf6abd_story.html?wpisrc=nl_most&wpmm=1)

Animals

**North America has lost 3 billion birds in 50 years.** The continent has lost nearly 3 billion birds representing hundreds of species over the past five decades. By Karin Brulliard The Washington Post September 19, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. EDT [https://www.washingtonpost.com/science/2019/09/19/north-america-has-lost-billion-birds-years/?wpisrc=nl\\_green&wpmm=1](https://www.washingtonpost.com/science/2019/09/19/north-america-has-lost-billion-birds-years/?wpisrc=nl_green&wpmm=1)

**Extinct sparrows? Blame the rats. They are suspected, along with climate change,** of a bird’s lower numbers.

By Sebastian Echeverri STAFF WRITER The Philadelphia Inquirer Monday September 23, 2019, pA1

CONTAMINATED WATER

**Tainted water study includes local counties.** Bucks, Montco, and Gloucester will get funds to test residents for PFAS and its health impact. By Laura McCrystal STAFF WRITER The Philadelphia Inquirer Tuesday September 24, 2019, pA1

**DRUMPFS OF THE MONTH:**

**EPA says California is polluting its waters.** By John Flesher ASSOCIATED PRESS The Philadelphia Inquirer Friday September 27, 2019, pA10. [Right after repealing the Waters of the United States Rule.]

**Trump officials threaten to withhold highway funding from California for its ‘chronic air quality problems.’** By Juliet Eilperin and Dino Grandoni The Washington Post September 24, 2019. [Right after rolling back CAFE standards. You can’t make this stuff up!] [https://www.washingtonpost.com/climate-environment/2019/09/24/trump-officials-threaten-withhold-highway-funds-california-its-chronic-air-quality-problems/?wpisrc=nl\\_most&wpmm=1](https://www.washingtonpost.com/climate-environment/2019/09/24/trump-officials-threaten-withhold-highway-funds-california-its-chronic-air-quality-problems/?wpisrc=nl_most&wpmm=1)

[return](#)