

Environmental Advisory Committee  
**January 21, 2021 at 7:03 pm**  
**Remote meeting**  
**Agenda**

1. Attendance:

<b>Member</b>	
Julie Petrik	x
Daniel Brooks	x
Mari Masalin-Cooper (Secretary)	x
Sarah Jo Sautter	x
Bridget McKinley	x
Kate Zenlea	x
Aaron Retish	x
Ben Falik (Chair)	x
David Egan	x
Vacancy (student representative)	
Bob Paul (Commission Liaison)	
Tara Pieron (DPW)	x
Amy Sullivan (City Manager)	x
<b>Public Participants:</b>	x
Claire Galed	x

2. **Welcome new Committee member** – Kate Zenla was welcomed to the EAC and everyone did a short introduction of themselves.
3. **Approval of November 2020 Minutes** - Approved unanimously
4. **Food compost media campaign:** Sarah Jo is working on the media assets and has a goal of having the materials ready for the start of the composting season. Amy will provide a more user-friendly logo. Since composting can't be aggressively promoted, the Committee thought that recycling should be the focus. Amy told the Committee that with the increase in online shopping, we are having a problem with residents not breaking down boxes and placing them in the recycling cart. Tringali has told the city they will not pick up boxes that are not in the recycling cart and broken down. Too many residents are leaving unbroken boxes at the side of their recycling cart without breaking them down and it has become a burden for the vendor to sort the boxes from the rubbish for recycling. Tringali will take the boxes as trash as of April 1<sup>st</sup> if not placed in a cart.
 

Claire provided a history of cardboard recycling. Suggested we could try to negotiate going back to breaking down boxes and putting them out at the curb in the city provided clear bags. She also suggested the city push back with the vendor on taking recycled metals as currently required in our city contract.

Sarah Jo thought an education program would do well. Some members remember being instructed to tie-up boxes that have not been broken down and place them next to the recycling bin.

Amy suggested that she and Tara talk to the contractor before April first to negotiate what they will accept for pick up and meet back with EAC with their findings. Then the EAC

will develop an education campaign for April 1<sup>st</sup> when the contractor will no longer pick up loose recycling.

5. **Solar ordinance update** – the Committee discussed an ordinance from West Bloomfield that addresses the aesthetic issue re: solar panel color. That ordinance permitted panels that were “inconspicuous” on the roof meaning that the black panels could be placed on dark roofs but not permitted on light colored or contrasting roofs. The EAC thought “inconspicuous” was a little too vague. Currently, they not permitted in the front and the EAC is trying to avoid going through the planning commission for approval on front facing panels. Motion carried to strike the language about inconspicuous panels being permitted from the proposed ordinance and will ask the planning commission to consider permitting panels on any side of the roof as long as it does not cause a glare. Several members will be at the planning commission meeting. Amy will rewrite the solar ordinance for the planning commission meeting.
6. **Consider changing the name of Committee** - Move this agenda item to February.
7. **Public Participation** - none
8. **Committee member remarks**- Aaron requested that as many EAC members that can, should come to Monday, January 25, 2021 Planning Commission Meeting.
9. **Next meeting:** February 18, 2021
10. **Adjournment:** 8:20pm