

Norwood Environmental Commission and Green Team Meeting
October 27, 2014
Minutes

GREEN TEAM Committee Meeting – 7:22 pm:

Roll call

Attending:

Christine Hageman, EC Chair 201-835-5687
Jean Hanley, Secretary

Not Present:

Mayor Jim Barsa
Councilman Frank Marino
David Hausmann, Community Member
Barbara Vanderbeck, EC Sustainable Jersey Coordinator
Alan Schrader, DPW Superintendent
Robert Lewis, Community Member

Earth Fair 2015 – Paperwork is available on the website. We can start sending out the website with our pings for the Earth Fair using the google doc. Next meeting is on November 20th at 7:30 at OT Borough Hall.

Upcoming Priorities:

Sustainable Jersey - new 2014 actions are reviewed to see what ones will work for us:

Arts & Creative Culture category - Creative Place Making Plan (set of strategies to make a place more sustainable through and for arts and culture in ways that enhance the positive distinct qualities of the place and make the most of the existing resources. This action has a prerequisite; establish a creative team, which may be already done, if the team that Frank Marino has put together (The Arts and Culture Committee) counts. It would be another **10 points** or 20 points.

Another new action category is Brown fields; Brown Fields Inventory and Prioritization. Municipalities can receive 10 points for creating a Brown Fields Inventory that identifies brown field sites, can be used to document progress in cleaning and redeveloping these sites, serves as a vehicle for prioritizing redevelopment and can be used as a marketing tool to attract redevelopment. This action is a prerequisite for other brown field actions. A discussion ensues about is what a brown field and if this action is suitable for us. We do not think now is a good time for that action.

Climate Mitigation and Adaptation – Flooding Risk Priority – This is designed to help a community identify vulnerability of flooding impact (like cars getting washed into the stream next to Kennedy), both coastal and inland and ways to improve overall resiliency. Action asset; Community form a team to assess its vulnerability using the flood mapper tool. This is a priority action and is worth 20 points.

Health and Wellness – shared use agreements (10 points) – more information to come.

Innovative Project 1, 2 & 3 (We have done 2; the bio diesel and the rain garden.)

Land Use and Transportation: Bicycle and Pedestrian audit for 5 points – address pedestrian and bicycling safety, by identifying areas where safe, comfortable, accessible welcoming environments for pedestrians and cyclists can be created or improved. In conjunction with this plan is a 10 point action; developing a plan for the master plan element.

Natural Resources; Environmental Commissions - **Site Plan reviews (10 points)** Municipalities that have established a formal process to send site plans and subdivision applications to the EC for review are eligible. There is a prerequisite for this action; the municipality must already have an active EC that was established by an ordinance.

Waste Management: Prescription drug and safety disposal – priority action (10 points) Develop a network of accessible pharmaceutical drop off locations for residents who possess drugs that they no longer wish to keep - Create a permanent drop off location or conduct at least 2 drop off events a year within in town. We did one already at the Health Fair this year.

Recycling: Non-mandated materials recycling – we will see if our electronics recycling counts (**10 points**)

Education Enforcement (5 points), which should take place within 18 months of the June submission deadline

Reusable Bag education Program (5 points) - have bag bans

Actions with name changes; Community Forestry Plan and Tree Cover Goal- municipal Trees – like the tree inventory. Need to have a team.

Actions that are now priority action – officially recognize green businesses in town (article, plaque, mayor proclamation)

Diversity and Equity on Committees in town

Remaining 2014 Small Grant Expenditures - Printing bill (Barbara ~\$250-270), Soil Tests (for the Health Fair ~\$200) If we still have \$500-800 how should we spend it? A discussion ensues. Use if for the Rain Garden sign is the final decision (One that can be opened and closed to change the map and description of plants as needed); Sign for Rain Garden – We need quotes we will ask KDF in Northvale, Sign of the Times in Park Ridge & try to find a 3rd company to get a quote from to submit to the Council. Plant labels. Replacement of a few plants in the rain garden – Grant Report Due this Week

Meeting ended 7:58

7:58 pm Chair calls regular meeting to order

Christine waives the reading of the Open Public Meetings Law.

Roll call

Attending:

Christine Hageman, Chair (201)835-5687

Jean Hanley, Secretary

Laurie Hageman

Paul Haberman

Not Present:

Paul Kozel

Barbara Vanderbeck, Treasurer

Dave Elling, Hist. Pres. Comm. Liaison

David Yoskowitz, Planning Board Liaison

Jim Elling, Vice Chair

Frank Marino, Council Liaison

Consent Agenda:

September 8, 2014 Minutes – approved.

Correspondence: ANJEC and Sustainable Jersey emails are tabled. All else is approved.

GASP – Paul mentions that they are curious to see the contents of the eventual ordinance (will the woodland areas be included?). Another version will be drawn up for review. A discussion ensues.

Clean Communities - Cleanup MiniGrant report: Christine returned the equipment, wrote up the report and submitted it with the pictures. Christine will follow up to see if the \$300 gets deposited.

Community response to deer browsing: Email: Response to Paul MacDonald, Closter EC, on how we do not allow hunting in the community because of the tight quarters, but rather supply information on deer resistant plants and repellents to use as well as how you should not feed them. A discussion ensues.

Announcements:

PB Meeting next meeting is on 10/16/14

ZBOA meeting Nov meeting cancelled - next meeting on 12/4/14 – a discussion ensues about the last meeting and how they bifurcated the application on Railroad Ave. The use variance will be next.

HHW Collection - 11/1/14; BC Campgaw Mtn. Res., Mahwah-9am-3pm (last collection of 2014)

E-Waste, Tire, Paper Shredding - 10/25/14; BC Campgaw Mtn. Res, Mahwah-9am-2pm (last collection of 2014)

Old Business:

ZB Applications: Landscaping Plan for Longhorn Homes (D’Ercole Farms) Subdivision – new plans were approved

PB Applications: n/a

Fox Hill Woods – Permit package in finalization; bench needs installation; schedule invasives cleanup

Finance Report – pending

Sustainable Jersey – we have to submit fleet management data in November – Christine will ask Barbara to help.

Norwood Day/Health Fair – Went well –Paul and Barbara attended. The Health people gave out flu shots. Christine didn't really give out many soil tests, so we will have them for the Earth Fair. Norwood Day went well too, but we did not give out many light bulbs, so we will have them for the Earth Fair, too.

Rain Garden and Cleanup – Christine and Laurie concentrated on picking up the trash at the cul-de-sac near the Senior Center. Christine will ask Alan S., DPW Supt. if they can put a garbage can there to help with the littering.

New Business:

PB Applications – n/a

ZB Applications – Railroad Ave Multifamily Use and Bulk Variances-comments submitted

Open Discussion: Earth Fair – a discussion ensues about the last meeting in Old Tappan. Shade Tree Ordinance revision-Paul wants to wait on discussion until December. (Rutgers manpower? Sustainable Jersey points)

Next Meeting – November 11, 2014

Motion to adjourn the meeting is unanimous.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:34PM

APPROVED

Chair

Secretary