

**Borough of Park Ridge Green Team - Minutes for Meeting of November 29, 2011 @ Community Center,  
Commenced: 7:30 p.m., Adjourned: 8:15 p.m.**

**Attendance: J. McDermott, D. Cawood, B. Coleman, B. Thomason, V. Lemba, R. Crisafi, J. Roehmer, G. Bottinor, B. Bogart, M. Falcon, B. Oppelts.**

**Municipal Recycling Bins**

1. James discussed recommendation for collaboration with various groups to decide on the best long term solution for Recycling in the Borough.

**Recycling Flyer**

1. Bob Bogart passed out samples of the flyer he has developed for the 2012 Borough Newsletter. Bob asked for comments on the flyer. James discussed meeting with Bill to review the layout and content later that week. James to schedule. Committee was pleased with the results and effort from Bob.

**School Recycling Progress**

1. Mark advised there are still problems at the H.S. with not every classroom having bins for recycling and the bins in cafeteria need lids. Also advises getting materials to recycling center continues to be problematic and district still has not purchased recycling bins that were promised. Mark reported that the Environmental Club's membership has almost doubled and there are now about 15 enthusiastic members. Danielle volunteered to schedule a meeting with Mark and the EC to discuss future programs with the GT.
2. Discussion about engagement with Environmental Club. Betsy recommended local hikes in PR with EC. GT discussed offering possible local hikes including the Glen, Electric Lake/Mill Pond Park and the Fairview Avenue Property. (Local Explores)
3. Discussion regarding developing recycling guidelines for H.S. Suggestion that Environmental Club helps to develop to engage them in the process.
4. Danielle reported she has not received any communication from either Bob Wright or Bob Gamper after James and Danielle had meeting with them in mid October to discuss district-wide recycling plan. Danielle placed phone calls and has not received any call back. EB and WR PTO's ready to implement and contribute funds for recycling-based community service projects and asking for GT input. Danielle requested signs for the recycling bins at schools.
5. George reported on EB Green Fair on November 15th, which was well received and EB students and teachers were very engaged. BCUA provided lesson plans for teachers at EB Green Fair.

**November 15<sup>th</sup> - Sustainable Jersey Park Ridge Bronze Award/National Recycling Day/East Brook Green Fair**

1. Park Ridge joined a small group of (82) sustainable communities by receiving the Bronze Certification Award from Sustainable Jersey. Steve, James, Danielle, Barbara & Betsy represented Park Ridge at the Sustainable Jersey luncheon in Atlantic City on November 15<sup>th</sup> to accept the award and attend workshops available at NJ League of Municipalities Conference. The workshops were informative to what successful Green Teams are doing around the state and how dynamic and creative the SJ Program is. Group was glad to attend and left with a wealth of ideas for 2012 initiatives.
2. November 15, 2011 will be remembered as National Recycling Day and in Park Ridge (thanks to Bill Beattie for putting the recycling message on electronic signboard!).
3. The Green Fair at East Brook, (thanks to Tammy Levinson and the Pascack Juniors for offering and putting together this Fair for the Park Ridge Schools, Principal Silver, the EB PTO, Rosemary Dreger Carey and the Pascack Sustainability Group and George and Brittany from the Green Team for Volunteering).

## 2011/2012 Open Items/Future Recommendations:

1. Anti- Idling - need to ask Steve to re-introduce ordinance at an upcoming M&C meeting.
2. NJ Pesticide free – Committee would like to reintroduce pesticide-free for Boro properties and educate the importance to all groups.
3. Bob Opelts reported Planning Board did not have an update yet for SJ initiatives.
4. Involving other committees-
  - I. Suggestions discussed for Green Team to partner with Recreation Committee to organize nature walks at local hiking spots.
4. Advisory Plan/future meeting with M&C to discuss upcoming GT projects. HELD OVER TO NEXT MEETING.

8:15 – Meeting adjourned and Green Team members attended Mayor & Council meeting to present SJ Bronze Certification award and banner to Mayor Ruschman. Mayor Ruschman, Mayor Elect Terry Maguire, Councilman Steven Hopper, and core Green Team Members including James, Barbara, Danielle, Vinny, Betsy, Roseanne and George joined together for a picture for the Community Life with the Bronze Award and the Sustainable Jersey Banner for Park Ridge.

8:30 - Betsy and Barbara spoke to M&C to suggest a future partnership between the Green Team, The Mayor, Mayor Elect, Council and other town boards/committees for viable, sustainable solutions for Electric Lake. Green Team committed to volunteering for fundraising through grant writing or other resources to help restore Electric Lake. Green Team mentioned examples in other communities between governing bodies and citizen groups that have been successful including Closter, Waldwick and Cape May. All agreed that this is a priority to work on in the near future.

Next GT Meeting Tuesday Dec 20<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Coleman