

Borough of Park Ridge Green Team - Meeting Minutes for Thursday April 17, 2012 @ 7:30

Attendees–, Bob Bogert, George Bottinor, Danielle Cawood, Barbara Coleman, Raj Bishnoi, Vinny Lemba, James McDermott, Bob Oppelt, Jay Roemer, Betsy Thomason, Tammy Levinson, Terry Maguire

Meeting commenced 7:30 PM, adjourned 9:45 PM

1. Barbara discussed plan for Electric Lake/Pascack and Mill Brook Pond Cleanup on May 5th. She showed the Adopt a Beach documentation and requested volunteers for the day. She discussed the Flyer distribution, vendors that are contributors including Home Depot, Lowes, Waste Management, local bagel stores and is waiting to hear back from Shop Rite and local pizza places. Discussion on pre-meeting the night before in the community center and the paperwork needed for waivers, sign in sheets and documentation for waste audit. Barbara said that she would like the event to be expanded to other towns in NY/NJ along the Pascack Brook next year.
2. James discussed Hertz Earth Day April 25th, invite from Hertz Sustainability Team and shared Flyer for event. Asked for volunteers to join him. Raj and Bob B said they would attend.
3. James discussed attending the Be Green Save Green Practical Uses of Sustainable Tax Dollars and Roseanne's presentation about Park Ridge as a great example of all the Sustainable actions by the Borough, Schools and the Green Team. James also spoke with Meredith from Hillsdale Green Team and discussed a future joint meeting. James also passed around a few handouts from the Fairlawn Recycling Program including savings per person for recycling and said that they we could copy and use them in the future.
4. Danielle discussed the Egg Hunt and the support of Mr. Naturals with handouts of seeds, coloring books and CFL Light Bulbs that Jay donated. She said that there were some people who stopped by the table at the end of the event.
5. Tammy and Danielle discussed the Paskack Juniors/Girls Scout Cleanup on April 28th. Tammy spoke about the history of the event and the areas covered. She also spoke about the Operation Medication Drop Off at the event. Danielle was going to put together a Green Team table with other vendors for the event and asked for volunteers.
6. Tammy discussed working on restarting the Adopt a Street Program. Barbara asked if Green Team could be a partner and she mentioned that she sees the need on the local roads. Tammy said that she would let the committee know when the program will be restarted in the future.
7. Vinny discussed the Boy Scouts Cleanup April 28th Woodcliff Lake.
8. Betsy discussed that she would like to learn more about performing Stream Monitoring to do the assessment in the future. Group discussed Urszula's comments in paper about what can be done to restore the health of the brook including reduced pesticides/fertilizer, reducing urban runoff and increased plantings around Brook and Lake.
9. Betsy discussed that she was going to look into the Hackensack River Cruise for our July meeting. She was going to give us the details and cost at our next meeting.
10. Municipal Updates - Bob O discussed that purchasing the Recycling Bins were getting finalized with Advance Waste and they will be ordered soon. Advance Waste was going to give a discount to borough for (10) bins. Bob said that he would follow up with James on bylaws and budget.
11. Vinny discussed School Recycling progress and that all the PTO materials were ordered for EB and WR but waiting for delivery. He also mentioned that there is still a delay in commingled pickups at WR and he was going to follow up with the district. Mark and Vinny are working on the BCUA Grant application and will submit all three by the week of May 7th. Vinny also has been working with OLM to submit the grant and that they were very glad that they were informed this year. Vinny also updated committee on the continued progress at WR.

12. James discussed recent meeting with Planning Board. Meeting was positive and both groups were looking to work together in the future.
13. Danielle discussed upcoming Green Fair @ Town Picnic Sat June 9th. She gave an overview of last year's event and was had a list of vendors to approach. She also discussed the need for volunteers and coordination with the Rec committee. Danielle also asked committee members if they have any vendors they could contact to invite. James mentioned that Pascack Sustainability Group said that they would attend again this year.
14. Group discussion on Greening Events. Bob O asked Vinny to send him copies of recycling signage and he was going to ask Bill to copy for labeling recycling bins at future events. Bob said that he would ask Rec to not use non recyclable Styrofoam products and to try to recycle at all events in the future. James mentioned that Greening the Green Fair is listed for SJ Points but more work would have to be done than just recycling. Tammy offered to work on setting up this program for future events. Danielle suggested that we start for any fall programs due to the limited time for upcoming events.
15. James mentioned that he was looking to have a future meeting with M & C, date TBD.
16. James discussed recent email to GT email about cutting trees in the community. Group discussed possible future programs to educate the community on importance of trees and a future tree replanting program. Bob mentioned scheduling a future meeting between Shade Tree and GT. Betsy was interested in attending that meeting.
17. Terry mentioned that there has been interest in starting a Garden Club in Park Ridge. Barbara and Betsy mentioned that they would be interested in volunteering for future events with the Garden Club.

Next Mtg TBD