

Meeting Start date and time:

April 23, 2021

12:07 pm

Attendees:

Charlie Neiss (chair)
Wendy Robinson
Denise Soppas
Bill Hance
Peg Ponzio
Kim DiDonato (12:10)

Agenda

1. Prior meeting minutes
2. Request from Environmental Commission to supporting Planning Board's proposed change to Master Plan
3. Green Fair
4. Follow-ups from prior meeting
5. Status on action items

Prior meeting minutes

No changes requested - to be posted on web site

Request from Environmental Commission to supporting Planning Board's proposed change to Master Plan

- Charlie – Talked about a change to the Master Plan the Planning Board has proposed. This will add a requirement for all new development to complete the Green Development Checklist checklist by Sustainable Jersey. This will encourage contractors to build to sustainable green standards. When contractors apply for a permit to build something they will have to complete this checklist. The Environmental Commission is drafting a letter to the council in support of this change and is asking the Green Team to do so as well. The Green Team agreed that this sounds like a good idea. Once we see the proposal and letter we will draft a communication from the Green Team to the mayor. The checklist answers will not affect whether or not construction takes place. It will just encourage contractors to build with green standards.

Follow-ups from prior meeting

Status on Action Items

- Green Fair – (Charlie) Warren only has approval to do a drive through fair. So if we want an in-person fair we would need to plan it ourselves - new date, vendors etc. We agreed to do a drive through with Warren. If things change we can switch to in-person at a future date. There was consensus that we need to proceed on this path.
Peg - Talked about a resource to recycle Styrofoam. Will be added to future meeting as a separate agenda item.
- Community Garden (Kim) - Will be looking at the school garden next week and follow-up on Rain Garden that was supposed to have been reimpliment at Bayberry.
- Green Team creation- Charlie has most of the documentation and is almost done
- Community Education outreach – Charlie will check with Peggy Elis
- Denise is working with Carolyn on OEM points
- Farmers Market –targeting a weekday market – possibly Monday. Check with Vendors if Monday or Tuesday is better. Wendy will look into getting the same vendors as the Summit market.
- Green Education – (Bill) Construction permits in progress
- Smoke Free – Charlie has not started
- Environmental Commission and Tree Ordinance – Charlie will check with Rachel
- Green Purchasing Policy – Wendy will seek to reauthorize it at a council meeting . If it is approved as an ordinance rather than a resolution it gives us and additional 5 points.
- Recycle paper – (Bill) – just need receipt that we have purchased recycled paper
- Prescription Drug Disposal - Police agreed to run a Prescription collection at the Police Station on April 24th 10-1.
- Paper shredding will happen as part of the green fair

Action (must be in 6 of 18 categories)	Status
Create Green Team (MANDATORY)	In Progress
Community Education & Outreach	TBD
Hold a Green Fair	In Progress
Extreme Temperature Event Plan	In Progress
Emergency Communications Planning	In Progress
Vulnerable Populations Identification for Emergencies	In Progress
Energy Tracking & Management (PRIORITY)	Not Started
Farmers Markets	In Progress
Green Building Education	In Progress
Anti-Idling Education & Enforcement Program	In Progress
Smoke-Free and Tobacco-Free Public Places	Not Started
Environmental Commission	TBD
Tree Protection Ordinance	TBD
Adopt a Green Purchasing Policy by Resolution	In Progress

Recycled Paper	In Progress
Municipal Communications Strategy	TBD
Prescription Drug Safety and Disposal (PRIORITY)	In Progress
Community Paper Shredding Day	In Progress
Non-Mandated Materials Recycling	In Progress

Non-Agenda Items:

- Community Solar – Charlie reviewed information provided by the Rutgers Energy Institutes seminar on Community Solar - Intersection of Solar and Environmental Justice – might want to look at when we are looking at what we do in the town for affordable housing. Look into a community solar arrangement for low income housing.

Follow up actions:

- Charlie to work with EC regarding support of revised master plan. If final action cannot wait until the next GT meeting, will confirm details via email prior to sending communication to the mayor and council.
- Charlie to contact Peggy E and Rachel regarding action item status

Meeting End time:

12:44 pm