**MINUTES FOR THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY MEETING AND GREEN TEAM MEETING**

Tuesday, March 22, 2022 - 7:30 pm – Virtual Meeting

**Members present**: Jane Young, John Lippert, Michael Hartman, Ronald Bjorkland, Rhema Bjorkland, Matt Dirksen, Larry Hilliard, Xochitl Zamora

Liaisons: Luisa Robles

Visitors: Michael Travis, Kelly Busquets, Tom Taylor, Evelyn Crellin, Lore Rosenthal

Excused Absences: Erica Hernandez, Kristen Weaver

**Call to order: 7:32 pm**

1. Do we want to have a table at the Green Man Festival? Evelyn is interested in distributing mosquito information. Hours are 10 am to 6 pm on Saturday (setup at 9 am), and 11 am to 5 pm on Sunday. That is 9 hours on Saturday and 6 hours on Sunday. Cost $20 for a table $40 for a tent. Luisa has a tent we can use. Tom Taylor will do the application.

Evelyn and Liz can volunteer as well as Michael Travis, Tom Taylor, Steve Skolnik, Ron and Rhema, John and Jane.

Evelyn and Liz gave information to Kristen Weaver to suspend participation in the county mosquito spraying program.

Tom Taylor has a trifold of Green ACES / Team activities. He will do the SignUp Genius.

Luisa can make copies of whatever materials people need.

1. Updates from Sustainability Framework / Green Team Circles.
	1. Energy / Solar Circle – Steve and John attended festival at Montgomery College to see EV and battery-powered tools. They saw numerous EVs including the new Rivian RT1 and Kia EV6. Brochures were collected and will be shared with PW directors.

EVIPG – Council will decide how to proceed now that the document has been accepted.

* 1. Food Systems / Sustainable Land Care/Pollinators Circle. - No Mow Month is April. Register at the link below by March 21 to receive a yard sign. Xochitl says Kevin has reported good signup for the event and for signs.

Larry is sponsoring a site at Goddard. Talks are being held with the Greenbelt Museum. Invasive removal was held. Native plant sale going on. Seeds were ordered for propagation in Greenbelt and USGS lab. Ordering plugs to give away during pollinator week.

SMC Rt 1 Corridor Pollinator meeting – Greenbelt will host the next one. Luisa will share tentative agenda with Pollinator Circle before proceeding. Xochitl to share upcoming events with Mike Hunninghake.

* 1. Green Building – Matt asks if there is interest in collaborating to write an article for the *News* *Review*? Building material costs are up 25% so not a lot of building is going on. Climate change bill passed in Senate, but the part banning gas lines was taken out. Clients are speaking about electrification in the building industry; there is more interest on this topic now. Unfortunately, natural gas is still being used to generate electricity.

Ron asks if this issue can be taken up with City Council to encourage electrification? Incentivize? Most legislation is for new housing, but it would be good to incentivize switching from gas to electric for old houses. The Green Team can lead with education. Once Matt and John are less busy they might convene to write an article and start an educational campaign.

* 1. Land Use /
	2. Transportation. - Goddard Fleet Manager DiPalo, Robert G (GSFC-2740) robert.g.dipalo@nasa.gov Goddard Sustainability Manager Busquets, Kelly M. (WFF 2200) kelly.m.busquets@nasa.gov.

Kelly manages several centers, but specifically Greenbelt Goddard and Wallops Flight Facility.

They had anticipated receiving some funding to install some Electric Vehicle Charging Stations. There are plans but no funding. New mandate to electrify the federal fleet and infrastructure. By 2035 100% of the vehicles need to be electric for federal fleets. Any vehicle that needs to be replaced has to be done with EVs. Their fleet already has some hybrids. Light duty trucks are available now or soon. Large passenger vehicles will be replaced with EVs. New charging stations will be Level 2 and Smart. Potentially able to take credit cards. Most level 2s are smart stations now (but don’t necessarily accept credit card payment). People will be charged directly from the utility so that the government is not an in between. Taking payment is more expensive on a charging station.

Integrated logistics facility will have EV charging stations for the fleet, and there will be some available through the campus also for employees.

NASA agency collaborated with local communities to install charging stations right outside the gates. These would be available for the public. There is a bus and bike sharing for people to get to their building if they are parked far away while charging.

Infrastructure also has to be electrified and obtained from non-carbon sources. CHP can be a substitution. Repurposing the steam for heating.

NASA chose to stay on course in spite of the previous federal administration to roll back “green” mandates. The present federal administration is supporting electrification for fleets and buildings. NASA is still on track but will need funding to meet the new goals. Zero footprint by 2050.

New solar array at the Wallops facility around the tarmacs, roofs, carports, etc. New construction or major renovations have to meet LEED silver rating. Renewable energy is included. Landfill gas is right now being reused. The carbon footprint is also being reduced.

Larry mentioned Facilities Management Division - Phil Denton - Area 200 - Springfield Road where possible solar arrays could go. Also talked with the Garden Club to establish some gardens. Trees need to be cut to work with lasers, so gardens could be established in those areas. Darlene Squibb met with Phil Denton and Larry Hilliard. - Thought Garden Club idea was a why not?

Lucchesi, Robert A. (GSFC-610.1)[SCIENCE SYSTEMS AND APPLICATIONS INC] <robert.a.lucchesi@nasa.gov>; Wallace, Mary (GSFC-673.0)[X3M Systems, LLC] <mary.wallace-1@nasa.gov> are now the Garden Club leaders.

Near “Building 32” meadows are being established with native plants (instead of turf).

Bike path to get to NASA through Greenbriar or the back gate to the Parkway?

* 1. Local Economies - Time Bank Circle. – Trades continue.
	2. Waste Management / Zero Waste Circle. – CMON had a meeting with the Solid Waste Advisory Committee for PGC. Andrea Croon was present, she will look into the Sandhill Landfill site to see if it is possible to establish a community composting location there.

Food recovery efforts are ongoing. Food rescue, sharing information with other municipalities with the help of Charise Liggins, Communication Coordinator for the City. Discussion on what the role of composting is for the City and how to move forward. Kevin will talk to Brian Kim and Brian Townsend at PW and with Compost Crew.

* 1. Water / Streams – SMC Stormwater presentations. Mapping of hot spots with Kevin and Tom Taylor. Kevin developed maps with GIS and will be sharing with the other municipalities on SMC. Native plantings to mitigate stormwater.
1. Events/Other: Invasive plant removal this weekend at Buddy Attic Park Saturday, March 26.

GCAN Neighborhood Sun speaker – how to encourage your neighbors Weds, April 13

Adjournment: 9:01 pm