

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

Tuesday, November 24, 2015 - 7:30 pm – Community Center

Staff liaison: Luisa Robles. Members present: Steve Skolnik, John Lippert, Matt Dirksen, Michael Hartman, Susan Barnett, Josh Hamlin, Kathleen Shaw

Excused absences: Jeffphine Dawson, Eva Fallon, Konrad Herling,

Absences:

Visitors: Tom Taylor, Ben Fishler, Bill Orleans

Green Team and Green ACES Meeting

Call to order: 7:34

1. John Berard is moving to Rhode Island, thus he is leaving Green ACES.
2. Updates from Green Team Circles
 - 1.1 Zero Waste – updates by Susan. Advocacy – After the LDF and Schrom Fest events, seeing that trash and recycling bins were not properly paired, the ZWx group sent a letter to PW asking that city trash and recycling bins be paired throughout the city; letter to COOP board asking them to green some of their practices: BPA free store receipts, ask clients if they need a bag, learn to tare-weigh containers for the salad bar, to use other options at salad bar, no Styrofoam for the soup containers and meat trays, remove micro bead products from shelves (only 5 products were found, they will be outlawed in 2018), no single use coffee creamers, etc. Next meeting Dec 9, 7 pm at PW. Projects – Schrom fest bins not paired up, tree lighting will pair bins and compost, New Years Eve, Farmer’s market – get plastic bags out. Sustainability survey to use with merchants in town. Shared supply closet for the City, dishes were picked up and are stored at PW for now. Working on vision and mission statements. Greenbelt Theatre (Michael) they have a recycling container in the lobby and not in the back of the house. Dan Puma is the manager and would like help training the volunteers, etc. Michael to email theatre contact person to Luisa and Susan.
 - 1.2 Sustainable Landcare – Josh Hamlin wants to get the ball rolling on this. (10 min). Wondering what happened to the policy from 2011 from Lesley. John gave a little recap of the history. The group would like to hear what is happening to the document now. Green ACES will send a letter to Council and City Manager about this issue.
 - 1.3 Stream/Stormwater Restoration. – Ben Fishler and Leeann Irwin are organizing rain garden workshops. Leeann wants a rain garden. Carol Ann Barth will be helping to organize the workshops. Bill Duncan is planning another meeting. Audit, paperwork, assessing your property, plantings, etc.
 - 1.4 Pathways of Sustainability – Susan Barnett – two meetings, advertised in the *News Review* and at festivals ways to register their BMP for pollinator gardens, etc. It is all getting mapped in GIS. How to advertise more and get the word out? Online resource library to get information? Getting their own website? Can the Green Team join “Smart on Pesticides”? Or the Zero Waste Circle join the “Plastic Pollution Coalition”?

- 1.5 Solar. The Solar City proposal piggy back with MC stalled when we realized Mandan road site is not all the City's property. Other companies the City can piggy back on were looked at by PW. Standard Solar and Edison presented a proposal, we could piggy back off their MNCPC contract. They propose to get land in our grid area and do net metering. We are waiting permission for them to see our Pepco bills. Steve called Urban Grid; we are still waiting for an answer. We are not sure we can piggy back on their contracts. Legatus6 is a federal contractor from College Park, they got the second contract with MC, so we can piggy back on it too. EV solar canopy grant is up again. Kathleen will contact Kap and see about Giant and Target.
- 1.6 Greenbelt Time Bank. Next orientation – Wednesday, December 9 from 7:00-9:00 pm at Maker's Space (Center Town).

3. Use Google Docs to share information & pictures for the City of Greenbelt website. Click on the links below: (10 min)
[*Greenbelt ACES / Green Team & Sub-Group*](#)
[*Green Steps*](#)
4. Update on AFF/Greenbelt grant: hot spots, contact info. Tim Murphy from the Alice Ferguson Foundation came to speak to our group about a trash awareness grant awarded to the City. AFF will provide signs to post near trash hot spots. We need to help them identify the hot spots and provide some contact information.
5. Sharing of information/Other?
- John Lippert mentioned that the 4th Tuesday of December is very close to the holidays. The group decided to skip December. Next meeting January 26.
 - Josh Hamlin has a petition for the City to say they disagree with MD Governor Hogan regarding Syrian refugees. Today, Montgomery County has made that statement. Joint declaration of municipal regions. Council will address this on Dec 14. Josh has started a Change.org petition.
 - Plan for Beltway interchange meeting coming up on Dec 9, to be held at Roosevelt High School.
 - Beautification of 193? Look at City Council agenda – we would like to be involved with that as well. Make sure biking, pedestrian, etc. are included.
 - A movie is out called “Consumed” that is based on GMOs. Advocacy groups that want labeling are promoting it.
6. Adjournment: 9:06 pm