



Hawthorne Green Team Committee Minutes: November 26, 2018

Call to Order: Rayna Laiosa, Rosanne Zagatta, Mary Mahon, Pat MacDonnell, Patty Elwood, Liana Romano, Teresa Moeller, Craig Cayetano, Maureen Cook, Carol Robertson, Lisa DeVoes, and Bill Nicolosi

Green Team Purpose

- Making community life sustainable in a way that minimizes environmental harm and depletion of natural resources
- Framework is based on the Sustainable Jersey Certification

Topics Discussed on November 26, 2018:

- a. Review October 22, 2018 Green Team Minutes – Approved
- b. Community Garden
 - i. First Refusal to all Gardeners – need to send email – Rayna; Team agreed that key must be returned, then request security fee returned if applicable. **Conclusion:** 2019 Community Garden Season – (2) 4 x 8 garden beds and (1) 4 x 12 garden bed is available; Will Announce (3) garden beds are Available in mid-January 2019; February 2019 deadline for applications; Award Garden Beds in March 2019; Require all gardeners to attend a Green Team meeting at the March 25, 2019 to review garden rules and regulations.
 - ii. Returned gardener has a requested a larger garden bed – 4 x 12; only concern is ensuring that the garden bed is maintained, weeds removed, and decaying tomatoes are not in the walkways. Team agreed to award the 4 x 12 for the returned gardener. Rayna will communicate in January 2019.
- c. Green Lectures/Bird Walks 2018 and 2019 – Topics
 - i. Bird Watching 101 – Lisa DeVos, Holly Cowen, and Liana Ramona – Discuss nesting boxes, feeders, birds, etc. – Fall or Winter of 2019 – Team agreed to the following Proposed Dates – March 5, 13, 19, or 27, 2019 – Mary will follow up with the Library for availability; Confirmed Tuesday March 5, 2019
 - ii. Green Cleaning Theresa Moeller – North Haledon – Norwex Products – professional grade microfiber and water is needed to remove 99% bacteria from surfaces; “Chemical Free Cleaning by Norwex; Confirmed Tuesday March 19, 2019
 - iii. Bird Walks –Confirmed/Booked Dates – April 13, 2019 (Saturday April 6, 2019 – Cel Earth Bration), May 11, 2019 (Grand Opening Gateway Project), May 25, 2019, or June 1, 2019
- d. “Gateway to the Passaic River” Project - 2018 ANJEC Open Space Stewardship Grant and 2018 Sustainable Jersey Grant for Environmental Commissions
 - i. 2018 ANJEC Sandy Batty Grant Awarded to Hawthorne Environmental Commission on Friday May 11, 2018 for \$1,500 grant.

- ii. **ANJEC Interim Report due Monday October 29, 2018** – Discuss draft interim report; All agree with the interim report progress on the Gateway project; Please send comments to Rayna by Friday October 26, 2018; Interim Report sent to ANJEC on Saturday October 27, 2018
- iii. **ANJEC Final Report due June 14, 2019**
- iv. **Sustainable Jersey Interim Report due January 31, 2019**
 - v. Council meeting on Wednesday June 6, 2018 – Rayna presented to Council “Gateway to the Passaic River” project; Presented Mayor with the ANJEC grant check
 - vi. Remove Poison Ivy from woody area - Proposals from Poison Ivy Gone (received proposal - July) and Green Goats (received proposal May); Another suggestion from Alex Vetlov – Downes Tree Service – Goffle Brook Park project; Note: Buttonbush must be preserved along the shoreline of the Passaic River. Met with Downes Monday July 23, 2018 – Carol and Rayna – discussed alternative locations for rain garden – two instead of one; Entrance of the walkway on each side; Rayna contacted Rutgers – Rutgers agrees to the alternative location of the rain garden. Rutgers will send the rain garden design within one (1) month – August. **Conclusion** – Downes Tree Service will remove poison ivy along the existing pathway to the River; all other poison ivy in the woody area will remain;
 - vii. July 2018 – Carol stated that there are tires and metal car grill along the shoreline of the Passaic River – Needs to be removed
 - viii. NJDEP Fish & Wildlife contacted the Commission – tentatively scheduled the first week of June – Stock fish in the Passaic River at the Hawthorne launch area – Wagaraw Ballfields – Scheduled on Thursday May 24, 2018 at 11:00 am -Northern Pike and Brown Headed Catfish; Pat and Carol will prepare a Press Release for the newspapers; Send to Rayna for review – Complete – Article was published in the Gazette and Hawthorne Press
 - ix. **Rutgers** – Received Scope of Work proposal dated June 11, 2018;
 - x. to propose dates for kickoff Site Visit meeting. – Confirmed Thursday July 12, 2018 at 10:00 am – Carol met with Rutgers. – Received Design September 4, 2018; Rayna will send to the Team for review; Team agreed with the Rain Garden Design; Rayna communicated to Rutgers; Friday October 5, 2018 at 8:00 am to have a Kick Off Meeting with Commission and Downes Tree Service – Confirmed; went very well; Rayna worked with Town on revising Rutgers Purchase Order. Conducted; Rayna worked with the Borough to revise Rutgers Purchase Order; **Next Step:** Schedule a site visit to finalize the rain garden design; Confirmed - Downes removed all tree/vegetation/trash/debris in the area of the rain garden; ground is leveled. – Confirmed November 7, 2018 – Carol met with Matt (Rutgers) to finalize the rain garden design; **Next Step:** Rutgers will provide the final rain garden design to the Commission by the end of November or the first week in December 2019. **Next Step:** April 2019 implement rain gardens
 - xi. **Downes Tree Service** – Monday September 24, 2018 – Rayna met with Pieter to discuss revised rain garden location and scope of work; Pieter will provide a proposal to install the rain garden, clear the pathway to the River, and removal of the large tree.; On Friday September 28, 2018, Rayna received permission from DPW to remove the trees in the rain garden location. October 2018 - Received scope of work proposals from Downes Tree Service; Approved scope of work and Purchased Orders were issued October 18, 2018; Downes Tree Service started the removal

- of the trees in the vicinity of the proposed two (2) rain gardens on Friday October 19, 2018! – Work will be completed by the end of October 2018; Work completed on Friday November 2, 2018 Walkway path will be 8 feet in width, not 10 feet – Confirmed with Rutgers on November 7, 2018; **Next Step:** April 2019 implement rain gardens
- xii. **2019 Grand Opening Idea** – Work with local Dick’s Sporting Goods, Ramsey Outdoor, or Campmour for kayak or canoe demonstrations-Discussion; Suggestion - REI in Paramus NJ – recreation equipment; conducts existing training program at facility; **Target Date: Saturday May 11, 2019**
- xiii. **Trail Sign** - Final Design – Canoe, Duck, Fish – Boxes around the wood the words “Gateway to the Passaic River” - Length of Trail Sign – 5 feet; Width of the Trail Sign – 2 feet; Rayna needs to create a pdf of the design to receive pricing for the trail sign. - Complete
1. John Minicozzi –donate local wood, Birch and two wooden posts for the Trail Sign; re-purpose local wood into products
 2. Wood maker selected – Hawthorne resident, Paul Whelan, of Lucky Wood will build our Trail Sign. Paul is working with John on the selection of the Birch wood; Paul Whelan brought a scaled drawing of the Trail Sign to the Commission meeting at the October 11, 2018
 3. Trail Sign Location: Maureen Cook/Rob Meier checking with Town and County for requirements – ordinances – completed; Both confirmed no issue to installing the trail sign on the corner of Wagaraw Road (parking lot).
- xiv. **Tree Tags** – Carol researched the internet; Found “Plants Map”; tree tags for Trees; Carol will order samples and send them to Pat MacDonald’s house. Pat brought the tree tag samples; Team loved them; Next Step: 1) Identify the trees in the woody area; 2) Need to communicate Downes Tree, Hawthorne’s Arborist, and Hawthorne Shade Tree Commission; - Designated Carol as point person; Completed; Carol met with Kevin on Friday November 16, 2018 to identify the trees in the woody area and along the ballfields leading to the Passaic River. The following trees were identified: Silver Maple, American Sycamore, White Ash, Black Cherry, American Elm, White Mulberry, Catalpa, Boxelder, Pin Oak, and Black Locust; Kevin was familiar with Plant Map tree tags. **Next Step:** Carol will contact Park Ridge Green Team to discuss how Plant Map interactive map is utilized and how to order the Plant Map tree tags. Does the Hawthorne Green Team create an account before or after the purchase of the tree tags?
- xv. **Nesting Boxes** Working with Cub Scouts – Steven Fitzsminon and John Manzo troop; Commission/Green Team will supply the recycled materials. What type of birds do we want to attract? – Request (8) nesting boxes to be built; Team agreed to attract the following birds: Chickadee, Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, Screech Owl, Wood Duck, and Flicker. Each of the birds have a different diameter of hole for the nesting box. Alex provided an estimate – approximately 60 linear feet is required of the recycled materials for the nesting boxes. Home Supply has been identified as the vendor to purchase the recycled materials and nuts/bolts required. Install nesting boxes February/March 2019 timeframe **Next Step:** Alex will visit Home Supply and get an order put together with the scope of materials and submit to Rayna – Still waiting for the list of materials that is required to be ordered from Alex.

- xvi. **Trail Map** – Rayna is providing a high-level concept of the Trail Map to Marc Molernaro (printer); Mary Mahon created a preliminary design of the Trail Map like the 8 Acre Wood trail map – not to scale; Trail map will include the walking paths, approximately walking distances of the paths, nesting boxes locations, and tree identification tags. Next Step: October 26, 2018 – Mary, Pat, and Carol will conduct a site visit to determine the number of steps and walking distances for the trail map. – Completed; Trail Map size 11 x 17; potentially have an insert map of the area on Trail map; Mary finalized the trail map and will provide to Marc to set up the trail map design. Completed; **Next Step:** Marc is working on the design of the trail map based on Mary’s draft trail map

- e. Sustainable Jersey – Recertification Cycle – June 2019
 - i. Rayna sent Pat an Excel Spreadsheet with all the SJ Action Plans. Pat will review and indicate what Actions that the Commission and Green Team has accomplished. Discussed a potential meeting on Sunday December 2, 2018 at Rayna’s House to review the SJ Action Plans – Carol, Patty, and Craig tentatively

- f. “Practical Ways to Reduce Waste” – Led by Pat MacDonnell –Recent articles in the Record; discussed how to get food waste out of the waste stream; Restaurants and residents; Discussed organizations - City Harvest (NYC) Food for Thought (Rockland County); City Green; Provide the resources to the our restaurants; Provide a Valuable Service; Need to provide the tools to the restaurants and the business to want to food waste recycle or donation; Pat conducted a preliminary research; Will report at our next meeting.

- g. Open Discussions:
 - i. **Daisy Troop Project** – Daisy sent letter to Mayor and Council requesting to put Pine cone bird feeders on municipal property for the birds. Discussed the 8 potential locations:
 1. Criteria – Safety considerations, parking, and easy to hang the pine cone bird feeders in the trees
 2. Finalized locations – Municipal Building, 8 Acre Woods, Rhodes Park & Utter Avenue, and Ambulance Building Corp/Community Garden; Scheduled Saturday November 10, 2018 at 2:00 pm; Rain Date Sunday November 11, 2018 at 2:00 pm. Meet at the Municipal Building. then travel 8 Acre Woods (park on Maitland Avenue – Boys & Girls Club), Ambulance Building/Community Garden and Rhodes Park at Utter Avenue. – Very successful event!
 - ii. JP Fisher Tile – Adjacent to Henry’s Plumbing strip mall – four (4) electric charging vehicle stations installed in 2017 – need to investigate further on the details of the project
 - iii. Styrofoam Drive – Craig – Identified EPS Recycling & Reselling of Densified EPS Springfield – Will accept Clean Styrofoam packaging material; No Peanuts, cups or food containers. Discussed – Event at the Hawthorne Recycling Center in January 2019 – 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Focus “Holiday Recycling Program of Styrofoam” Maureen will discuss with Eric Maurer and Bob Scully – event;
 1. Publicity – Borough’s Website, Facebook, Municipal Board Announcement Electric Board, Nixel, local newspapers – Hawthorne Press, Gazette, Tap Net Hawthorne

- iv. 2018 Hawthorne Environmental Commission Budget – Will be purchasing two (2) tablecloths with logos of the Hawthorne Environmental Commission and Green Team from Any Promo; Rayna is working with Maureen on the Purchase Orders. And Will be printing Green Maps, 8 Acre Woods Maps, and Annual June Environmental Certificates; Rayna will follow up with Marc on the printing order.

VISION STATEMENT

Hawthorne is committed to protecting our natural resources while meeting the needs of the present generation without compromising those of future generations.

Sustainability means:

- Protecting our open spaces, and conserving our natural resources with waste reduction and recycling
- Promoting environmental education, and energy efficiency to residents and businesses alike
- Considering environmental, economic, and social impacts to future development
- Improving community health and quality of life for every citizen

**Next Joint Environmental Commission/Green Team
December 6, 2018 at 7:30 pm
Municipal Building**