



**Environmental Commission and Green Team  
Minutes  
February 19, 2015**

Call to Order: Rayna Laiosa, Rosanne Zagatta, Mike Mariani, Robert Meier, and Hazel Pinos  
 Guests: Maureen Cook, Ellen Brogno, Carol Robertson, Barbara McGuirk, and Ed McGuirk

- I. Attendance and Acceptance of Environmental Commission Minutes –January 8, 2015  
 Motion by: Rob Meier, Second by: Rosanne Zagatta

- II. 2015 Green Team Meeting Dates

January 26, 2015
February 23, 2015
March 23, 2015
April 27, 2015
May 18, 2015
June 22, 2015
July 27, 2015
August 24, 2015
September 28, 2015
October 26, 2015
November 23, 2015
December 10, 2015

- III. Annual 2014 Environmental Commission Report and 2015 – Presentation  
 Wednesday Council Meeting February 4, 2015 – It went well
- IV. Sustainable Jersey Update – Discussed and reviewed
  - a. Sustainable Jersey Small Grants Program On-Line Application – Deadline February 1, 2015. Hawthorne Submitted
  - b. 2015-2016 Action Plan Green Projects
- V. Green Team Subcommittee Meeting
  - a. **Community Garden**
    - i. Community Garden Sign – Donated by Alex Clavijo; Will be conducting a 2<sup>nd</sup> Grand Opening Ceremony with the new Sign in the Spring 2015.
    - ii. Upgrade 4 x 12 Garden Bed Selection: Name picked out of a hat - 1<sup>st</sup> Melania Holiat and City Green Grant 4 x 12 Dria Lobosco; Rayna will communicate to Melania and Dria about their upgraded garden bed. Therefore, there will be two (2) 4 x 8 garden beds available to the Residents of Hawthorne.
    - iii. Community Garden 2015 Update – Posted 2015 Community Garden application, rules/regulations, and disclaimer on Borough’s website – Ellen Brogno posted information on website. All applications are being submitted to Ellen in the Mayor’s Office.

- iv. City Green Dig In Grant Program – 2015 Spring Cycle; **Deadline January 30, 2015**. Waiting for response – We received the Grant! ; Note: Need 2 cubic yards, not 1 cubic yard for 4 x 12 garden bed.
  - b. **Green Lecture**– Jack Systma Lecturer March 10, 2015 at 7:30 pm Hawthorne Library “Basic Gardening” – Pre-planting, soil preparation, and vegetable gardening; Mary Mahon will prepare the Press Release (Press & Gazette). Hazel will prepare the flyer.
  - c. **Green Lecture** –May 12, 2015 at 7:30 pm Hawthorne Library “Organic Pest Management”
  - d. **Next Green Team Meeting Monday March 23, 2015**
- VI. **Fair Lawn Green Fair** – Wednesday March 4, 2015 – Hawthorne Environmental Commission/Green Team to participate at the event – Booth – Agreed; Pat Hutzelman will be the lead for the event. Focus of the booth: Green Map, Buy Local Campaign, Rain Garden, and Community Garden; Pat will pick up the supplies from Rayna prior to the event. Due to illness, Pat will be unable to lead the event. Robert Meier agreed to step for Pat as the Lead. Carol Robertson and Molly Sher will be working with Robert at the booth. Arrive by 5:30 pm at the Fair Lawn Community Center. Robert will pick up the materials from Rayna prior to the event.
- VII. 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Cel-Earth-Bration – Saturday April 18, 2015 Hawthorne High School 10:00 am to 2:00 pm
- a. Theme - Cel-Earth-Bration - Discussion about incorporating Social Media into the Theme – “Earth’s BFF”, BFF Earth; Will be further Discussed at the Green Team meeting February 23, 2015
  - b. Contest – Draw, Paint, or Take a Picture “ Show how/ what do you do for the Earth
  - c. T-Shirt – Borough of Hawthorne unsure due to budget constraints
  - d. Potential Vendors
    - i. Bike Safety – Police Department
    - ii. Hawthorne School of Dance
    - iii. Toxic Punch and Dirt Cake
    - iv. Flo’s Market
  - e. Potential Activities
    - i. Green Robot Zoo – Exhibition Contest
    - ii. 2<sup>nd</sup> Trashion Show
    - iii. Rain Barrel Workshop – Rayna will work with Amy Rowe
    - iv. Rizzo Reptiles – Booked
    - v. Sewing School “Re-Purpose Jeans” workshop
  - f. Special Invitations
  - g. Giveaways, etc
- VIII. Zoning Board of Adjustment Report
- a. 233 Central Avenue Project – **Monday February 23, 2015 at 7:00 pm**; Commission prepared and submitted comments to the application on January 2, 2015
  - b. 204 Wagaraw Road, LLC Rivergate of Hawthorne, (Block 12, Lot 8 and Block 13.01, Lot 10) Application seeking preliminary & final site plan approval along with use and bulk variance relief to develop the properties in question for a mixed use development. The Applicant proposes a total of 244 residential units, 6,000 square feet of retail and 4,000 square feet of office space in the B3 Zone
    - i. Special Meeting **Monday February 9, 2015 at 7:00 pm** – Designated by the Environmental Commission, Rayna Laiosa- Chair, testified on environmental concerns: site remediation, NJDEP land use permitting (flood hazard individual permit, freshwater wetlands), stormwater, and

flooding on the proposed re-development. In addition, the applicant proposes a 10 feet high wooden fence along/adjacent to the Kohler property line. During the meeting, it was discussed these wooden fence would act as a barrier to keep water on the property or push water towards wagaraw. It would act as “dam” on each side. Rayna would bring up the additional concerns about the wooden fence during the next time the Engineer (Langan) testifies.

ii. Special Meeting *Monday February 23, 2015 at 7:00 pm* – Traffic

IX. Planning Board Report

a. Royal Realty LLC – Meeting Tuesday March 3, 2015; In process of reviewing the plans and prepared draft comment letter for Planning Board; Rayna will work with Lisa. Rayna shared the draft letter with the Commissioners. Rayna requested additional information from the Planning attorney, steep slope analysis plan. The Commissioners designated the Environmental Commission Chair to testify at the Planning Board on behalf of the Commission. (5 Votes – Yes)

X. Updates on Issues and Commissioners Concerns, Next Steps

a. Hazel Idea - Earth Hour Saturday March 28, 2015 at 8:30 ap. Discussed having a press release in the Gazette and Hawthorne Press; Discussed having “Hawthorne’s Earth Hour” Saturday April 18, 2015 from 8:30 to 9:30 pm; Earth Hour 2015 Super Hero is “Spiderman”

**Environmental Commission Meeting  
March 12, 2015 at 7:30 pm  
Municipal Building**