



**Virtual Meeting
Joint Hawthorne Environmental Commission/Green Team – Minutes
June 26, 2023**

Meeting Called to Order: Rayna Laiosa, Mary Mahon, Pat MacDonnell, Lisa DeVos, Holly Cowen, Charles Stebbins, Mike Mariani (arrived at 8:22 pm), and Maureen Cook
Guests: Rita Pinelli, Craig Cayetano (arrived at 8:06 pm), Janet Turco and Mike Turco (arrived at 8:07 pm)

Join Zoom Meeting

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- I. Attendance and Acceptance of Meeting
 - a. Hawthorne Environmental Commission Minutes – May 11, 2023
Motion: Holly Cowen; 2nd Motion: Lisa DeVos
- II. Hawthorne Planning Board – Robert Meier – No report reported
- III. Green Team Meeting
 - a. Community Garden - 10th Anniversary Community Garden Celebration – Confirmed - Sunday June 11, 2023 at 10:30 am; Community Garden Sign installed - Phenomenal job. Thank you everyone!
 - a. Bird Walks 2023 Dates Sunday March 26 - 8 Acre Woods, Sunday April 16 - 8Acre Woods, [completed and successful] Wednesday May 10 - Rea Mansion, Saturday May 13 - 8 Acre Woods, Saturday May 27 – Rea Mansion, Sunday

June 4 - 8- Acre Woods; Bird Walks start 9 AM Flyers available on Earth Celebration Day. Wednesday was a success.

b. Next Green Team Meeting: Monday July 24, 2023 at 7:30 pm

- IV. Kids Corner Newsletter - Summer 2023 – Rita – Summer in Hawthorne — distributed to Rick Spirito Monday June 19 2023; Thank you Rita for a great job.. Rayna will distribute to local newspapers, Tap into Net & Gazette, Facebook, Boro’s and Library’s website
- V. Find the Hawthorne BEE – Partnership Hawthorne Green Team and Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce – Month of July 2023 Environmental Commission will be responsible for paying for the printing BEE materials.
- a. Mary, Rita, Rayna, and Meg will distribute materials to local businesses; Total of 30 businesses are participating!
- VI. Spotted Lanternfly – New Jersey Department of Agriculture Grant Program - The Department has appropriated \$4.9 Million for this grant program. A total of up to \$50,000 per county, and up to \$15,000 per municipality, subject to the availability of funds, to be encumbered on a first-come, first-served basis, will be provided to reimburse for eligible costs incurred for SLF chemical treatment activities.
- a. Commissioners discussed the grant program. The Haw Env. Chair and Hawthorne ‘s arborist is not supportive of the Grant because it is chemical treatment sprays. The Borough of Hawthorne has developed and implemented green grounds and maintenance policy from Sustainable Jersey and encourage the town and residents to be pesticide free. It is recommended that the Tree of Heaven should be removed, not sprayed. Commissioners voted “No” for support the application of the grant and chemical treatment sprays for the Borough of Hawthorne– 8 – No’s - Rayna Laiosa, Mary Mahon, Pat MacDonnell, Lisa DeVos, Holly Cowen, Charles Stebbins, Mike Mariani, and Maureen Cook
- b. Homeowners can choose to conduct chemical treatment on their property. Green team members suggested that vinegar mixture works by spraying the spotted lanternfly and trees – natural remedies. Maureen added Kevin is working on a statement for the residents. They are a nuisance not killing trees. .
- c. Hawthorne Env Com Chair will communicate to the Boro’s administrative on our discussion and recommend that a statement be added to the weekly Mayor’s letter, June 30, 2023.
- d. Under advisement, Craig suggested sending a letter to the state addressing to not use chemical treatment.
- VII. 12th Green Fair at Farmers Market – Sunday September 10, 2023 (Rain Date: September 17, 2023) Time of Event 10:00 am to 1:30 pm; set-up 9:00 am
- a. Music – Hawthorne local musician – Matty Z – Rayna
- b. Potential Vendors – Contact Them & Request Participation – Open to New Vendors/Organizations – **Deadline for Commitment** – Friday August 4, 2023; Lisa will send email to vendors by July 7, 2023
1. Amy Rowe – Rainbarrel/green infrastructure/ water conservation/native plant booth
 2. Hawthorne Recycling – Maureen Cook
 3. “Animals Need You” non-profit organization - Tom - Mary
 4. PCSPCA – Stephanie
 5. BEAR Management – Doreen
 6. City Green – Pat – In the past, unable to participate on weekend events
 7. Plant Swap - Leah Steenstra Genvario

8. Hawthorne Gardening Neighborhood Club -Peggy Weber
 9. Lyme and Tick Disease/World Paper USA - Alexandra
 10. Goffle Brook Farm – donate vegetable seeds – Maureen will contact Donna, Owner
 11. Passaic County 4-H Club (Bike Smoothie Demonstration – Rutgers Nutrition) –
 12. Knead-U-Need –
 13. Green Team/Environmental Commission Booth –Community Garden, Container Gardening, Rain Garden, Native Plant Projects, Gateway to the Passaic River -
 14. Composting Demonstration – Mary; Alternative Option – Craig
 15. Hawthorne Birds – Holly & Lisa - maybe
 16. Project Medicine Box – Get literature/information for Green Team booth – Maureen Cook
 17. Hawthorne School of Dance –Erin
 18. The Learning Tree -
 19. Pilates Fusion Changed to Beyond the Fitness Studio - 973-310-3919– Holly will contact new owner – Strong – Owner – Jared – Holly
 - ~~20. Holistic Nutrition for Life – Nutrition – Robin – No longer available~~
 21. Electric Car - Park Ave BMW
 - ~~22. Hawthorne Railroad Association – No longer available~~
 23. Hawthorne Shade Tree Commission – Maureen
 - ~~24. Cub Scouts – Kim – No longer available~~
 - ~~25. Girl Scouts – Lauren – No longer available~~
 26. Boy Scouts – Rich M
 27. Lincoln Landscaping “Native Plants”
 28. Reimagined Design - Stephanie
 29. A Rock Solid History of Hawthorne NJ –Veronica
 30. Hawthorne Historical Society –Veronica/Jackie
 31. Yoga with Gianna – Rita will ask for another person
 32. Hawthorne Fire Department – Rayna
 33. Hawthorne Ambulance Corp – Rita will reach out to Nancy
 34. Wildbird Unlimited – Lisa
 35. Farmer’s Market Vendors –Rob Meier
 36. North East Jersey Beekeeper Association – Richard Stellingwerf at 201-693-2571 –
 37. Vegan Lifestyle – No farm animals; educate to promote plant based choices– Elisabeth Barker
 - ~~38. Plug In EV Charger – Nick – No longer works at company; Another Name – Jesse Carpenter~~
 39. Passaic River Coalition –Laurie Howard
 40. Trinity Solar. Julie Saporito-Acuna julie.saporito-acuna@trinity-solar.com; 732-685-1744
 41. Prestige Pest Services – Favio Ulloa
 42. Cross Fit – Wagaraw Road – Dave Whitson – demonstration – Back Up
 43. Bee Hives – Goffle Hill Road – Lt. Hoogmond – Maureen
 44. Identify Another EV Charger Contact Person – Craig
 45. Fair Lawn Amateur Radio – Mary
- c. Tables and Chairs for event – All vendors will provide their own tables and chairs
- d. Publicity
1. Press Release, Facebook, Borough’s Website, Electronic Boards at Boro Hall and throughout town

2. Green Fair Signs – Mike Mariani has the signs
3. Green Fair Flyers
4. Special Invitations – Mayor and Council
- e. Giveaways – Dog Tags and Can Opener out of recycled rubber
- f. Contact Police in advance for signs and traffic control

VIII. Update on Issues and Commissioners Concerns

- a. Hawthorne Environmental Commission/Green Team Facebook Messenger received a question about certifying native plant gardens; Lisa will respond and provide information on Bergen's Audubon certification program and contact information.

**Virtual Meeting Hawthorne Environmental Commission
Thursday July 6, 2023 at 7:30 pm**