



**Virtual Meeting
Hawthorne Environmental Commission – Minutes
August 11, 2022**

Call to Order: Rayna Laiosa, Mary Mahon, Rob Meier, Mike Mariani, Pat MacDonnell, Lisa DeVos, and Holly Cowen
Guests: Charles Stebbins and Rita Pinelli

Join Zoom Meeting

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- I. Attendance and Acceptance of Meeting –
 - a. Joint Environmental Commission/Green Team Meeting Minutes – July 25, 2022
1st Motion: Robert Meier, 2nd Motion: Pat MacDonnell
- II. Planning Board Report – Report by Robert – August 2, 2022 Planning Meeting cancelled; next meeting August 16, 2022
- III. Kids Corner Newsletter - Dawn Zagatta presented the Summer Program Newsletter; Rayna sent the newsletter to tap into Hawthorne, Gazette, and Boro’s website to be posted, and the Library; Discussion of the Fall Newsletter topics – Will be discussed at September 2022 meeting
- IV. Green Team Meeting
 - a. Community Garden – Update on Gardener Bed repair (Maureen not present; Pat will check the garden bed) and garden beds – “Giving Tuesday” – donate to Hawthorne Food Pantry (Pat will send weekly reminders via email to all the

gardeners); One (1) garden bed returned. Barbara will take care and plant vegetables in the garden bed. Rita P volunteered to help. All produce produced will be donated to the Hawthorne Food Pantry; Rita asked if OK to donate purchased produce Commission Response: OK; Pat MacDonnell will be designated as an Administrator for the NJ Community Garden Facebook page.

- b. Buy Local Campaign – Find the Hawthorne BEE! Month of July 2022 – Hawthorne Businesses Partnership with Chamber of Commerce and Hawthorne Green Team – 30 Chamber businesses; All are welcome to Attend the Grand Celebration Sunday July 31, 2022 at 12:00 pm Hawthorne Farmers’ Market; Pat commented on how well The Buy Local campaign was. Kids very excited, Generous prizes donated by the local Chamber businesses; Thank You letter to the editor is in process of review by Chamber and Green Team Chair
- c. Polystyrene is Confirmed for Saturday Oct 1, 2022, rain date Oct 15, 2022 at the pool. Mike Mariani updated the flyer; Will official announced at the upcoming Council Meeting on Wednesday Aug 17th, 2022
- d. Next Green Team Meeting: Monday August 22, 2022 at 7:30 pm – All agreed to Cancel the meeting

V. 11th Green Fair at the Farmers’ Market Sunday September 11, 2022 (rain date September 18, 2022) Time of Event 10:00 am to 1:30 pm; set-up 9:00 am

- a. Music – Hawthorne local musician – Matty Z - Confirmed
- b. Potential Vendors – Contact Them & Request Participation – Open to New Vendors/Organizations – ***Deadline for Commitment – Monday July 25, 2022*** – Reviewed the below list of with Green Team members; Rayna & Lisa cross referenced with 2021 Green Fair’s list of participants; Lisa sent email invitation to potential participants
- c. Confirmed Vendors
 - 1. Hawthorne Recycling – Maureen Cook Confirmed
 - 2. “Animals Need You” non-profit organization - Tom Confirmed
 - 3. PCSPCA – Stephanie Confirmed
 - 4. BEAR Management – Doreen Confirmed
 - 5. World Paper USA and Lyme and Tick Disease Alexandra - Confirmed
 - 6. Green Team/Environmental Commission Booth –Community Garden, Container Gardening, Rain Garden, Native Plant Projects, Gateway to the Passaic River - Confirmed
 - 7. Composting Demonstration – Mary Confirmed
 - 8. Hawthorne Birds – Holly & Lisa Confirmed
 - 9. Project Medicine Box – Get literature/information for Green Team booth – Maureen Cook Confirmed
 - 10. Hawthorne School of Dance –Erin – Rayna will follow up – Confirmed for 12:15 pm
 - 11. Electric Car - Park Ave BMW- Confirmed
 - 12. Reimagined Design - Stephanie Confirmed
 - 13. A Rock Solid History of Hawthorne NJ/Hawthorne Historical Society–Veronica Confirmed
 - 14. Trinity Solar. Julie Saporito-Acuna julie.saporito-acuna@trinity-solar.com; 732-685-1744 George to be contacted Tuesday – Confirmed
 - 15. Farmer’s Market Vendors –Rob Meier - Confirmed
 - 16. Fairlawn Amateur Radio Club Ed Efczak – Confirmed
 - 17. Cross Fit – Dave Whitson – Confirmed
- d. Waiting for Responses

1. Amy Rowe – Rainbarrel/green infrastructure/ water conservation/native plant; Rayna will follow up via phone call
 2. City Green – Pat to contact – Unable to participate
 3. Plant Swap Leah Steenstra Genvario; Rayna to contact – Unable to participate
 4. Hawthorne Gardening Neighborhood Club -Rayna to contact Peggy Weber; Lisa will send an email to request participation
 5. Goffle Brook Farm – donate vegetable seeds – Maureen will contact Donna, Owner
 6. Passaic County 4-H Club (Bike Smoothie Demonstration – Rutgers Nutrition) — waiting for response from Amy Rowe
 7. The Learning Tree - Lisa will contact
 8. Pilates Fusion Changed to Beyond the Fitness Studio - 973-310-3919– Holly will contact new owner
 9. Hawthorne Railroad Association – Lisa will follow up
 10. Hawthorne Shade Tree Commission - Maureen to follow up
 11. Cub Scouts – Kim – Rayna to follow up –Decided to not ask for participation
 12. Girl Scouts – Lauren - Rayna to follow up – Decided to not ask participation
 13. Lincoln Landscaping “Native Plants” – Maureen will contact Mike
 14. Hawthorne Fire Department – Rayna will contact Chief - Decided to not ask participation
 15. Wildbird Unlimited – Lisa will contact Owner
 16. North East Jersey Beekeeper Association – Richard Stellingwerf at 201-693-2571 – Holly will contact
 17. Vegan Lifestyle – No farm animals; educate to promote plant based choices– Elisabeth Barker
 18. Plug In EV Charger – Nick is no longer works here – Lisa will follow up with new contact, Jessica
 19. Passaic River Coalition –Laurie Howard - Unable to participate
 20. Prestige Pest Services – Favio Ulloa
 21. Cross Fit – Wagaraw Road – Dave Whitson – demonstration – Holly will contact owner – Confirmed
 22. Mary to contact Hands to Paws organization
 23. Lokai Rose Animal Environment Education- Craig will contact
- e. Tables and Chairs for event – All vendors will provide their own tables and chairs; Maureen and Rayna to discuss and chairs and tables for Commission and Recycling booths
- f. Publicity
1. Press Release, Facebook, Borough’s Website, Electronic Boards at Boro Hall, Library, and throughout town
 2. Green Fair Signs – Mike Mariani has the signs - Confirmed to put up
 3. Green Fair Flyers Mike to update flyer - date 9/11 rain date 9/18/2022 and send to Commission – Completed
 4. Special Invitations – Mayor and Council
- g. Giveaways – Dog Tags and Can Opener out of recycled rubber bags. Glow sticks for Hawthorne Day Give more reuseable bags out at Green Fair.
- h. Contact Police in advance for signs and traffic control – Completed

- VI. Sustainable Jersey Re Certification – SJ provided comments July 8, 2022 to Borough of Hawthorne; **Deadline to address 2nd round comments due August 28, 2022**
- a. Initial submittal exceeded the Silver Certification action plan points in May 2022
 - b. SJ 2nd Round of Comments July 2022 – slightly below the Silver Certification action plan points; Hawthorne will address all of the comments and will maintain our Silver Certification. Pleased so far on progress
 - c. Rayna and Mayor Lane will attend SJ Award Luncheon Ceremony in November. A Huge Thank You to everyone!
 - d. **SJ Action Plans – 23 Comments Received – In Complete**
 1. Pledge Supporting NJ Wildlife Action Plan - Need to additional activity; sent email to SJ to confirm that updating the Environmental Resource Inventory - Wildlife chapter updated would count – Updated/Uploaded into SJ August 6, 2022 – **COMPLETED**
 2. Community Education & Outreach - Need additional information regarding the Kids Newsletter from Dawn Zagatta - Updated/Uploaded into SJ August 6, 2022 – **COMPLETED**
 3. Community Garden – Remove all sensitive information – phone numbers, emails, etc.. - Updated/Uploaded into SJ August 6, 2022 – **COMPLETED**
 4. Support Local Businesses - Remove all references to Hawthorne’s Buy Local program; already received action plan points for Buy Local Campaign; Updated/Uploaded into SJ August 6, 2022 - **COMPLETED**
 5. Vulnerable Population Identification for Emergencies - Rayna will follow up with the Police Chief on additional information to address comments; **Did not Re-Submit**
 6. Anti Idling – Question the date on the Enforcement Plan figure; Anti Idling resolution (2013) memo must be re-districted appropriate departments to ensure that the program is still be in effect and beyond. Rayna sent to Boro to distribute – **COMPLETED**
 7. Innovative Project #1 – Daffodil Project - Need to provide additional years – 2019, 2020 to document program is not one (1) year program; Rec’d all 2019 and 2020 information from Al Ianacone; must assemble information and upload into SJ system - **COMPLETED**
 8. Innovative Project #2 – Find the Hawthorne BEE Litter Program – Request additional information from Boro to address comments; Received documentation Monday August 8, 2022; must assemble information and upload into SJ system - **COMPLETED**
 9. Digitizing Public Information Update and add links for boards and commissions to the Checklist; Requested additional information from Boro to address comments - **COMPLETED**
 10. Non-Mandated Materials Recycling - Maureen to provide additional information – textiles and polystyrene. Disagreement on the number of action plan points eligible for this program with Sustainable Jersey. Confirmed with SJ agreed to our submitted documentation & Action Points; only needed the polystyrene documentation; - **COMPLETED**
 - e. **SJ Action Plans – Approved**
 1. Environmental Resource Inventory (ERI)
 2. Community Forestry Plan

3. Tree Maintenance
4. Tree Planting
5. Tree Protection
6. Mayor's Wellness Program
7. Community Food Pantry Bank & Soup Kitchen
8. Community Asset
9. Emergency Communications Planning –
10. Prescription Drug Safety and Disposal -
11. Sustainable Land Use Pledge
12. Green Grounds & Maintenance Policy
13. Green Team
14. Paper Shredding
15. Municipal Communication Strategy
16. Household Hazardous Waste
17. Brownfield Investigation/Assessment
18. Brownfields Inventory & Prioritization
19. Energy Efficiency for Municipal Facilities
20. Recycling Depot
21. Hawthorne Environmental Commission
22. Recycling Education and Enforcement
23. Green Fair
24. "Green" Your Green Fair
25. Buy Local Campaign

i. In-Process Action Plans May be submitted in August 2022

1. Farmer's Market and Making Farmers' Market Accessible –SJ is in the process of Updating Action Plan; hold off initial submittal of information to SJ Postponed until August, - Rob is talking to vendors on Friday, June 10, 2022 for the 2022 season; Requested 2022 Farmers' Market information for SJ submittal
2. Efficient Landscape & Design
3. Recycled Materials and Recycling not written up touch base in July
4. Innovation Project – "Gateway to the Passaic River" ??; Rain Garden Action Plan expired; no longer eligible for SJ points; need to review; Postponed until August 2022; Based on Review, this may be more appropriate under Green Infrastructure Action Plans; Not Eligible as Innovation Project;
5. **Not Submitting** - Reusable Bags – Draft FAQs Flyer – Rita selected consumer Q/A from the New Jersey Business Action Center Plastics Ban website; Brenda/Mike will create a flyer; Review and Discussion – Completed; Social Media campaign started in February 2022; Rayna is working with John Tap Into Net on a series of articles on the plastic bag ban; Suggestion - April – Kids to Kids Program topic – Hawthorne High School no longer has a teacher for this program Postponed until August 2022; All agreed to donate 100 bags to Hawthorne's Food pantry – Board of Health
6. **Not Submitting** - Tree Hazard and Tree Inventory Information – waiting for Hawthorne Shade Tree Commission

VII. Update on Issues and Commissioners Concerns

- a. Fall Bird Walks – Lisa and Holly will review their calendars for upcoming dates
- b. Hawthorne Day – Saturday September 24, 2022

- c. Discussion of Joint Virtual Meeting of the Hawthorne Environmental Commission/Green Team – Thursday September 8, 2022 at 7:30 pm – Agreed

**Virtual Joint Meeting Hawthorne Environmental Commission/Green
Team
ZOOM Meeting
Thursday September 8, 2022 at 7:30 pm**