

Environmental Committee Meeting

1/23/19, 7 PM

In attendance were returning members: Tara Howell, Kathryn Eckel, and Michael Harris. Also in attendance were new members Geoff Chrisman, Necia Cocklin, and Chris Runion.

After introductions Mr. Runion was nominated as Committee Chairperson; Ms. Howell was nominated Vice-Chair. The vote for both was unanimous.

The committee reviewed options for the current year. This included the review from the preceding Environmental Committee meeting (9/17/18) where renewal of the Sustainable Jersey application was discussed. It was noted that Bronze renewal recertification was to be sought; also reviewed from 9/17/18 was the establishment of three committee goals:

- a target for two grant applications in the next year following the Sustainable Jersey renewal;
- exploring Recycling alternatives to our current single-stream model to reduce waste and cost; and,
- developing a communication strategy for the latter.

Also discussed from 9/17/18 was the resurrection of the Borough's Green Team.

New action items were established:

- Ms. Howell will contact Marc Hain for documentation from last year as may support the renewal of the Borough's Sustainable Jersey application.
- Ms. Eckel will research the Tesla Corporation's support for charging stations, and NJ Electric Vehicle Charging Grants. Once a program(s) are selected, this initiative will be shared with the FCP for their possible collaboration.
- Budgetary needs were discussed. Ms. Howell and Ms. Eckel both discussed the need for funding for communication, and an annual mailing was also discussed. The committee discussed that this could be co-opted with other Borough initiatives and that Environmental Committee would seek to collaborate with any and all Borough communications. A budget of \$1000 for promotions was to be sought together with collaborations with DPW communication. Mr. Harris will bring this to the next DPW meeting for discussion. Mr. Harris will also investigate any restrictions on seeking sponsorships to offset a proposed budgetary expense.
- Mr. Runion referenced a \$1400 grant to the Borough regarding **[trash and recycling?]** and Mr. Harris will inquire on this with CFO for 2019; was this spent; what is the status of the sanitation/recycling contracts - what could be done to lower the costs? (Ex: reduced number or bags, or the sorting of recycling.)
- Mr. Runion will renew the Borough's Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions membership.
- Several committee members expressed interest in attending local ANJEC events in March.
- Ms. Cocklin volunteered to investigate the Green Acres fund's competitive grant application.
- Mr. Chrisman will investigate Green Team resources.

- [Mr. Runion] will investigate for a map of Borough assets: parks, open space, etc.

Calendar

Mr. Runion shared information about an upcoming Radon education event (1/28/19).

The Committee also established its meeting schedule through June 2019 as follows:

Wednesday, 2/27

Monday, 3/18

Monday, 4/15

Monday, 5/20

Monday, 6/17

- Ms. Howell will send meeting reminders to all committee members.

The meeting ended at 8:16 PM.