



# EWING GREEN TEAM

*Promoting People, the Planet and Prosperity in Ewing*

APRIL 23, 2014 MINUTES

LOCATION: EWING SENIOR AND COMMUNITY CENTER

## PRESENT

Green Team members denoted with an asterisk \*

Natalie Barney  
Pete Boughton \*  
David Byers\*  
David Ensminger  
John Hoegl \*  
Lee Farnham  
Lisa Feldman\*

Mary Jane Leach \*  
Joanne Mallowney\*  
Joe Murphy\*  
Michael Nordquist\*  
Anita Pinkus  
Cathie Swango

## INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW OF THE VISIONING PROCESS

The April meeting was called to order by Pete Boughton at 7:04 pm. Green Team members were asked to approve the March minutes as posted on our website. Dave Byers made a motion to approve them, Lisa Feldman seconded the motion. The March minutes were unanimously approved with no additions or corrections.

A number of guests attended the meeting: David Ensminger, Anita Pinkus, Lee Farnham, and Cathie Swango, interested Ewing residents, as well as Natalie Barney, our Visioning facilitator from Maga Sustainability, Ltd.

## COMMUNITY CONVERSATION: PRESERVING OUR PAST, TRANSFORMING OUR FUTURE

Joanne Mallowney presented a PowerPoint slide show with an overview of the Community Conversation logistics for the visioning process for Green Team members who may not have been totally in the loop. She covered such topics as the title selected by the organizing committee that met at Mary Jane Leach's home during April, the specifics of the date, time and location. She summed up a list of the tasks assigned to Green Team members: completion of the Green Team Rubric (still outstanding by some members), familiarizing themselves with the Maga Teamwork site, and submission of lists of stakeholders

Group Tasks	
Create Script for "The Ask"	✓
Work on Budget	
Create event webpages (JM)	✓
Create event title	✓

[Ewinggreenteam.org](http://Ewinggreenteam.org)

Contact us: [ewinggreenteam@gmail.com](mailto:ewinggreenteam@gmail.com)

Monthly Meetings at Ewing Senior & Community Center, 999 Lower Ferry Rd, Ewing, NJ 08618, 4<sup>th</sup> Wed. of each month



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to Green Team leaders for the invite. The table on the right indicates the status of the Group tasks to be completed.

Since the meeting had no Wi-Fi connection, Joanne also presented slides displaying the Maga Teamwork site contents including a proposed calendar for the year, the Community Conversation webpages on the Green Team site, showed the Ask letter and the stakeholder matrix to date. Also included was a still to do category with the following tasks:

- Zero Waste Event implications
  - Sign up for Zero Waste Committee
  - Get students, volunteers to help
  - Create signage, label cans...
- Food Committee
  - Sign Up for Food Committee tasks – what food, who to provide...
  - Help manage food tables during the day
- Supplies...
- Manage responses...
  - Decide on deadline
  - Invite 2<sup>nd</sup> tier for those who decline
- Publicity Committee
- Plan for Recording the day itself
  - Photographer
  - Video?

Mary Jane Leach also offered a refresher for attendees on the Green Team reasons for implementing this visioning process.

## GREEN TEAM RUBRIC

Natalie Barney returned to Ewing to present in more detail on the Green Team Rubric. Her purpose was to encourage members to complete it and explain why it was important. It will enable the Green Team to better assess Green Team capacity and progress at the end of the visioning year if we have a well-defined starting point at the beginning of the process.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### COMMUNITY GARDENS AND COMMUNITY ASSET MAPPING

Michael Nordquist and Joanne Mallowney reported jointly on the status of the Community Gardens. A porta-john and picnic table are in the works, the fields were plowed and the gardeners were beginning to work on their plots, and an Eagle Scout attended the April Community Garden meeting to volunteer

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to work on a project that the group determined was needed. It would include fundraising for that project. Possible projects suggested included working on the lower fencing and creating a kiosk. There are more plots filled than ever and we are well on our way to using most of the new plots in the organic section this season also.

The Bonner students were unable to present on the status of the Community Asset Mapping project. There was a slight hiatus in the work as they were involved with other end of the semester chores. They promised to continue working on the mapping project in May and present the results of the project at the May meeting.

## LIVING LOCAL EXPO REPORT

John, Pete, Lisa and Joanne reported on the success of the Living Local Expo in March. Not only did the Ewing Green Team up its level of participation this year, but the Expo was much more successful than last year. There were possibly as many as 1500 people in attendance, over 80 vendors, a new \$1K sponsor that Ewing brought in (PSE&G), a Tips and Hints booklet written by Joanne Mallowney in collaboration with Margret van Vuuren from the Hopewell Green Team, and numerous other successes. EGT members attended a follow up meeting after the Expo and plans were made for the 2015 Expo. While the Armory was a better venue than Lawrence High School, with the level of attendance that we saw this year we need a still bigger venue for next year. Committee members are investigating TCNJ or Rider as possible locations. It was also recommended that we get an earlier start to the organizing than this past year. Overall, it was a very successful venture.

## COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Pete Boughton and Joanne Mallowney reported that the Green Team was sponsoring 2 rain barrel workshops at the Hollowbrook Community Center in the coming month in conjunction with Lindsay Blanton, the local AmeriCorps representative. The first is to be held on Saturday April 26<sup>th</sup> and the second on May 10<sup>th</sup>. Flyers were posted around town; it was advertised in the Ewing Observer, on the Green Team website, and through Rutgers University newsletters. Electronic signup is available through Sign Up Genius. The cost is \$45 per rain barrel.

Joanne also reported on the next two ***Environmental Insights*** programs scheduled. The details follow.

1. Camille Miller, Executive Director of the NorthEast Organic Farming Association of NJ will present a film, ***Food Inc.*** and will lead the discussion afterwards on Tuesday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. The venue will be TCNJ – the Education Building Room 113. A special News Updates e-newsletter is planned to publicize it and flyers will be posed around town and a press release was submitted to the Ewing Observer.

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## ABOUT **Food Inc.**

The film is a 2008 American documentary directed by Emmy Award-winning filmmaker Robert Kenner. The film lifts the veil on our nation's food industry, exposing the highly mechanized underbelly that's been hidden from the American consumer with the consent of our government's regulatory agencies, USDA and FDA. Our nation's food supply is now controlled by a handful of corporations that often put profit ahead of consumer health, the livelihood of the American farmer, the safety of workers and our own environment.

2. The next **Insights** presentation will be on June 10<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m., a Tuesday. AmeriCorps Ambassador, Lindsay Blanton will give a presentation on creating a rain garden.

Joanne asked for volunteers from the Green Team to work with her on this committee to develop the series more fully.

## CONCLUSION

The close of the meeting was announced at 8:50 p.m. by Green Team Chairperson, Pete Boughton.

Respectfully Submitted

*Joanne Mallowney*  
*Communications/IT Officer*

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