



EWING GREEN TEAM

Promoting People, the Planet, and Prosperity in Ewing

APRIL 22, 2015 MINUTES

LOCATION: EWING SENIOR & COMMUNITY CENTER

PRESENT

Green Team members denoted with an asterisk *

Pete Boughton *
Mary Corrigan *
Michael Nordquist *
Mark Weatherbee *
Helen Tai
Adam Sots

Joanne Mullowney *
John Hoegl *
Lisa Feldman *
Joe Murphy*
Aygen Hepurker

INTRODUCTION

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 pm.

The March minutes were held over until next month.

DISCUSSION

Guest Helen Tai talked about the Girl Scout's tree mapping effort. They identified the trees in Banchoff Park and cataloged them in <https://www.opentreemap.org/phillytreemap/map> . They will be labeling them next and placing QR codes.

TEAM REPORTS

RECYCLING

Lisa Feldman stated that Shred Day 1 on April 18th brought out about 330 cars, a good turn-out. Thanks go to the participating Green Team members Mark Wetherbee, John Hoegl, Joanne Mullowney, Joe Mirabella and Lisa Feldman.

TCNJ Bonner student Aygen Hepurker stated that the final draft of the Ewing Township recycling map (a Sustainable Jersey Community Asset Mapping project) he had been working on under the supervision of Michael Nordquist and Joanne Mullowney will be available on April 23. This map will highlight all of the clothing drop boxes and major recycling centers by item in town in map format that will be made available in PDF format and printable for use by Township residents.



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GARDENS

Michael Nordquist reported that all plots have been allocated. The garden clean up that took place on March 28 had about 22 Bonners and 20 gardeners show up. It was a good start on the path work on the site and the removal of all of last year's hardware and materials from the inorganic plots was accomplished. Thanks to the support from the TCNJ Bonner Institute, the Ewing Gardens are now members of Isles garden support network.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Joe Mirabella's talk on Nuclear Energy was attended by eight people, a very disappointing turn out. The presentation was excellent and he put in over a hundred hours of preparation time. We are considering how to make the materials in the presentation available to the public. Perhaps it can be put up on the Green Team website, broken down into smaller sections. We will have to investigate possibilities. The next *Environmental Insights* program will be at the June 24th EGT meeting and will feature a presentation and discussion about invasive species by Susan Brookman, Executive Director of the NJ Invasive Species Strike Team.

Joanne Mullowney is in the process of preparing the EGT presentation at the West Trenton Garden Club's annual Flower Show to be held on the last weekend of April at the ESCC. There will be a number of posters on the EGT activities, including the results of the Community Visioning, and the next Environmental Insights program on Invasive Species which should be of interest to gardeners. In addition, we will have a poster on Monarch Butterflies and some cold stratified butterfly weed seeds for give away. Pete Boughton volunteered to give Joanne a hand with set up and take down.

BIKE ADVOCACY

Next meeting is April 29th.

BEAUTIFY EWING

The site plan has been created and approved for the work at Municipal Complex. After the planting areas have been amended and tilled, planting is expected to begin in the first or second weeks of May. The plan includes the placement of QR codes on signage so visitors can find out about the various plants used via the EGT and Township websites.

NEIGHBORHOODS

It was suggested that before and after photos of Olden Ave and Parkway Ave re-development be submitted to the Observer to let people see the changes being made in Ewing.

SAFE STREETS

It was suggested that we reach out to the DOT for information.



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ENERGY

There will be a complete energy audit of Township buildings. The Mayor has signed a letter to encourage Ewing businesses to participate in the Direct Install Program. The letter will be mailed to all local businesses along with a flyer containing information about the Direct Install program by Tri-State Light and Energy, the BPU certified auditor and installer of many of the program initiatives. The GT needs to advertise the program to show businesses where it has worked.

LIVING LOCAL EXPO

The Living Local Expo on March 28th at the New Jersey National Guard Armory was another success this year. Over 900 people had attended. The EGT contributed heavily to the effort to run the Expo. Sustainable Lawrence was the originator of the annual 8 year effort, but in future the Expo will be run by members of the newly formed Mercer County Sustainability Coalition, an alliance of the green teams and sustainability organizations in the County. Heavily involved in this year's Expo were Ewing, Hopewell, Lawrence, Princeton, and Trenton. They are endeavoring to get more green teams in the County involved, not only in the Expo, but in other sustainability events.

OUTREACH AND EWING SCHOOLS

Pete Boughton and Joanne Mullowney met with the Dennis Nettleton, the School Business Administrator, to discuss green initiatives for the schools. He had limited interest in the Sustainable Jersey for Schools programs but did see from the brochure that the Ewing schools have accomplished a number of actions in the programs. They currently have plans with an Energy Savings Improvement Program that will finance replacing the old boilers. Also, they are phasing in a change to LED lighting beginning with the HS gym.

IN CONCLUSION

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Corrigan