



EWING GREEN TEAM

Promoting People, the Planet, and Prosperity in Ewing

JUNE 23, 2015 MINUTES

LOCATION: EWING SENIOR & COMMUNITY CENTER

PRESENT

Green Team members denoted with an asterisk *

Pete Boughton *

Valerie Caffee *

Lisa Feldman*

Joanne Mullowney*

Michael Nordquist *

Sarah Steward

Tessie West (Lawrence)

Helen Tai

Jean Graham

Teresita Bastides Heron (Lawrence)

Jim Thoresen

David Byers*

Mary Corrigan*

Joe Mirabella*

Joe Murphy*

Carolyn Steward*

Mark Wetherbee*

Helga Fontus

Jo Ann Povia

Pam Mount (Lawrence)

June Miller

INTRODUCTION

The meeting had guest speaker, Susan Brockman, the Executive Director of the [New Jersey Invasive Species Strike Team](#) (<http://njisst.org/>), an organization which manages a statewide cooperative effort to prevent the spread of emerging invasive species including fish, insects, plants etc. across the state of New Jersey. She gave an excellent and informative presentation on the issues involved with the spread of invasive species in NJ and what attendees could do to help. Her presentation was filmed in part and will be televised by PBS NewsHour Weekend, which is produced at Channel 13 in NY. Look for more information coming shortly about when it will appear.

Upcoming Events

June 24th Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association tour

June 27th–2nd Shred Day of 2015 to be held at the municipal building

July 23rd - Farm to Table Fun(d)raiser at Terhune Orchards to benefit the Mercer County Sustainability Coalition, the alliance of green teams and sustainability organizations in the county.

Discussion and Reports

Ewinggreenteam.org

Contact us: ewinggreenteam@gmail.com

Monthly Meetings at Ewing Senior & Community Center, 999 Lower Ferry Rd, Ewing, NJ 08618, 4rd Wed. of each month



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COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

The posters which summarize the results of the Community Visioning project in 2014 have been hung at Town Hall. Personal letters will also be sent to all residents who were invited providing information as to how we have been following up.

COMMUNITY GARDENS

Michael Nordquist has resigned as chair of the Ewing Community Gardens Council due to work commitments. The gardeners need to elect a new board. Pete is leading the effort to identify, work with and train a new Garden Council.

BIKE ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

Planning for a Ewing Bike Tour to promote healthier lifestyles thru bicycling and a more bikeable community is ongoing. Pete and Jo are working on having a 10 mile ride on Sept 26th. We are planning to use some of the grant funds to pay for the various aspects of the event.

BEAUTIFY EWING CAMPAIGN

Beautify Ewing project have completed their plantings at Town Hall. They still need to get the signage done.

ARTS AND CULTURE

Lisa is looking into the possibility of placing a sculpture at the Community Gardens. She is also planning for the second Annual Scarecrow contest this fall. She is hoping to get the schools involved.

ENERGY COMMITTEE

They are planning for the residential outreach including home Energy Audits. They hope to hold an informational outreach event similar to the one they held for the business community in the fall.

CONCLUSION

We will need to recertify with Sustainable Jersey next year. Certification requires a lot of documentation. Jo will review our actions to see where we are for our next meeting and will go over the same asking for input then. Silver certification is 350 points, a substantial increase over the 150 points for our initial Bronze certification and we think that we have a good shot at it. We already have 60 – 80 possible points for the community visioning and other ongoing actions such as community education and outreach, the annual green fair, Shred Days and more. Accomplishing many of the goals set out in the community visioning process should take us a good deal of the rest of the way there. We need to identify exactly what we are going to be able to accomplish for ourselves, the Ewing Environmental Commission and what other Township offices are doing to determine whether we can possibly make it and then make it happen. We are looking now to prepare to gear up and finish the projects and then get them written up for submission in early June.



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May's meeting minutes were accepted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Corrigan