



# EWING GREEN TEAM

*Promoting People, the Planet, and Prosperity in Ewing*

JAN 9, 2016 RETREAT MINUTES

LOCATION: EWING SENIOR & COMMUNITY CENTER

## PRESENT

Pete Boughton\*  
Evan Crumiller\*\*  
Joe Mirabella\*  
Michael Nordquist\*  
Mark Wetherbee\*

Mary Corrigan\*  
Lisa Feldman\*  
Joanne Mallowney\*  
Carolyn Steward\*  
Sarah Steward\*

Attendees marked with an asterisk (\*) are EGT appointees. Evan Crumiller (\*\*) is newly appointed and will be sworn in at the January meeting.

## INTRODUCTION

Joanne called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM. The outstanding minutes from July through Sept. were approved. New EGT appointee Evan Crumiller introduced himself and was welcomed to the group.

## DISCUSSION

Sustainable Jersey recently announced a new round of grant opportunities. Jo and Lee Farnham, Chairman of the Ewing Environmental Commission, are working together with Township Administration to apply for one in the amount of \$20,000. One of the conclusions of our community visioning effort focused on the beauty of trees, and the need to preserve them. This grant's objective is to deliver on that vision. Our already very low tree canopy of 27% vs. the statewide average of 40%, and the emerging emerald ash borer problem in Mercer County also necessitate developing an action plan aimed at improving our tree canopy. They have met with Bill Brash, the NJ certified forester who has worked with the township previously. The deadline for application is Feb 7.

A bike rack has been ordered for the Ewing Senior and Community Center [ESCC] with the remainder of the money from the previous grant. This purchase completes the spending for that grant. Once the invoice is received, the final grant report will be submitted to Sustainable Jersey so that we can apply for the tree funds.

## SUSTAINABLE JERSEY RECERTIFICATION

The purpose of this January retreat was to launch the Sustainable Jersey recertification effort for 2016. Sustainable Jersey timelines, award levels (bronze and silver), and priority actions were given an overview. Michael went over the Sustainable Jersey website in detail so that all members would know where to find

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

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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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information about their actions. Our spreadsheet with all possible actions was examined in detail. Roles for the various actions were discussed. In summary, we clarified all needed EGT actions, garnered volunteers for leadership roles for those actions, discussed the work needed and the timelines for each. We went over the write ups that will be needed for the various actions, in particular, going over the ***What to Submit*** and examples from other municipalities.

## CERTIFICATION LEVELS



### Bronze certification requires:

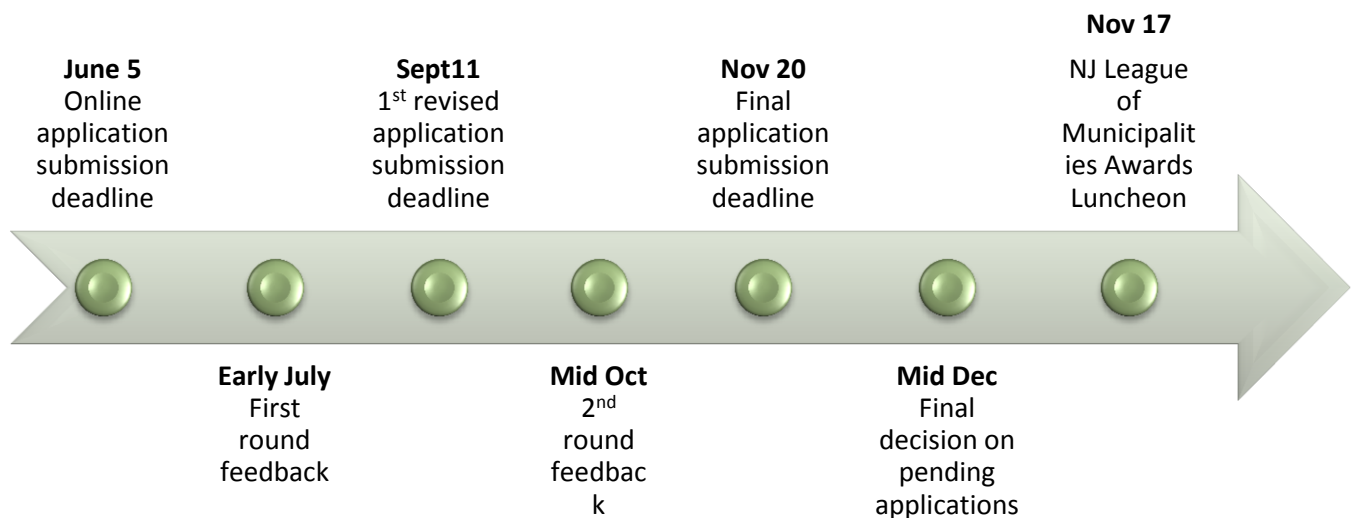
- Establishment of mandatory green team
- Implement 2 of 12 priority actions
- Complete actions in 6 of 19 categories
- Total of at least 150 points



### Silver certification requires:

- Establishment of mandatory green team
- Implement 3 of 12 priority actions
- Complete actions in 8 of 19 categories
- Total of at least 350 points

## RECERTIFICATION TIMELINE



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## SUMMARY – IMPORTANT DEADLINES

- **June 5** – Deadline for Application, some items can be incomplete as long as they are completed by the revised application deadline.
- **Sept 11** – Revised Application
- **Nov 20** – Final Application for 2016

## DETAILED REQUIREMENTS

- Mandatory Green Team
- Priority Actions Include:
  - Energy Tracking & Management
  - Implement Energy Efficiency Measures
    - Replaces: Inventory & Upgrade All Buildings
  - Green Business Recognition Program
  - Fleet Inventory
  - Climate Adaptation: Flooding Risk
  - Municipal Carbon Footprint
  - Sustainable Land Use Pledge
  - Natural Resource Inventory
  - Water Conservation Ordinance
  - Prescription Drug Safety and Disposal
  - Diversity on Boards & Commissions
- Upload documentary evidence for all actions.

## POSSIBLE PRIORITY ACTIONS FOR EWING FOR SILVER CERTIFICATION WERE DETERMINED TO BE:

- Energy Tracking and Management
- Green Business Recognition Program
- Sustainable Land Use Pledge
- Natural Resources Inventory
- Prescription Drug Safe Disposal

## CONCLUSION

Reminder: meetings will continue to be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wed. of every month at the Ewing Senior and Community Center [ESCC], but the meeting time has been moved up one half hour to 6:30. The next meeting is Jan 27, at 6:30 pm. Please note the new time. It was also decided that the team will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesdays from February thru May at 6:30 in order to prepare for the recertification effort. The meeting was adjourned 12:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mary Corrigan*

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