



EWING GREEN TEAM

Promoting People, the Planet, and Prosperity in Ewing

SEPT 28, 2016 MINUTES

LOCATION: EWING SENIOR AND COMMUNITY CENTER

PRESENT

Kedesch Altidor-Dorcély
Pete Boughton*
Mary Corrigan*
Lisa Feldman*
Heidi Furman
John Hoegl*

Joanne Mullowney*
Michael Nordquist*
Michelle Pitts
Caroline Steward*
Sarah Steward*
Mark Wetherbee*

INTRODUCTION

Michael called the meeting to order at 6:32. The minutes from August were voted upon and unanimously approved. The group welcomed Michelle Pitts and Heidi Furman, township residents.

DISCUSSION

2016 ANJEC ENVIRONMENTAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Ewing Green Team has been notified that it will be receiving a prestigious 2016 Environmental Achievement award from ANJEC (Association of NJ Environmental Commissions) at their 2016 annual Conference on September 30th in West Windsor. The **Build a Scarecrow Contest**, now in its third year, is a unique example of combining creative place-making with recycling and recycling education. It requires that all entries be constructed of at least 80% recycled, reclaimed, and/or reused materials. Accepting the award for the Ewing Green Team will be team member Lisa K Feldman, the contest's creator. The next contest is Oct 29th. Last year we had 13 contestants.

SUSTAINABLE JERSEY RECERTIFICATION STATUS

Ewing submitted for actions worth a total of 460 points. 390 have been approved to date. Actions worth 70 points are still under review. We have met the requirements for Silver Certification. Awards will be presented at the League of Municipalities luncheon on Tue Nov 15th. Tickets to the luncheon are \$35.

Guest Speaker



EWING GREEN TEAM

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Kedesch Altidor-Dorcely from the US Department of Health and Human Services was our guest speaker for the evening. She spoke to us about how we can build a healthier community using two of the nation's stellar health programs, **Let's Move** and **Million Hearts**. **Let's Move!** is a comprehensive initiative, launched by the First Lady, dedicated to solving the problem of obesity within a generation, so that children born today will grow up healthier and able to pursue their dreams. **Million Hearts** is a national initiative with an ambitious goal to prevent 1 million heart attacks and strokes by 2017.

The Ewing Green Team has not tackled many of the Sustainable Jersey **Health and Wellness** initiatives and this will prompt us to look deeper into this category to see how we might facilitate building a healthier community.

REPORTS

CREATIVE ASSETS

Lisa reported that the invitations went out for the Creative Assets meeting on Oct 13th. She is hoping that some of the artists would be interested in judging the scarecrow contest. She will also be attending a class on Asset Mapping.

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS

Caroline reported that there is no update on the Neighborhood group. She is setting the next meeting date.

BIKE TOUR

Pete reported that the 9/24 bike tour does not have as many riders signed up as last year. Gary Keel has volunteered to chair the bike group next year. We need to determine what the 2017 ride is going to be.

GREEN BUSINESS RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Sarah reported that the Green Team Business Recognition Awards were given by Evan Crumiller to three of the six recipients at the last Council meeting. The rest will be given out individually. The six recognized businesses included: Elks Lodge #105, Ewing Independent Living, Money Management Associates, Paul's Liquor Store, Red Star Pizza and Robbins Pharmacy. We congratulate these businesses for serving as sustainability models for other businesses in the community and a job well done.

ENERGY

John reported that the home energy report has been completed and uploaded to the Township website. The home performance with Energy Star requires that one company be hired. None has been approved by Council yet. Tri-Star was doing the audits though they ran out of money on Sept 15th. They will be starting up again for small businesses. John and Mark will knock on doors again; once they have the bullet points.



EWING GREEN TEAM

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EMERALD ASH BORER TREE GRANT

Jo reported that she and Lee Farnham from the Environmental Commission are continuing to work on the EAB grant. They have been meeting regularly with NJ State Certified Forester Bill Brash to add conditional tree data to the inventory supplied by the Rutgers ***Rapid Ash Survey*** that was conducted in the summer of 2015. In addition, they are developing a list of potential partners for tree remediation. There will be a meeting in Nov with interested parties.

GREEN TEAM MEMBERSHIP

The official roster of the Green Team should be at 15 and we currently have only 14. We also have a number of inactive members; a difficulty with a Board with as many activities as ours. The team usually makes suggestions for new appointees by the end of November each year. New members are sworn in in January, so we're looking for interested candidates now!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Shred Day is Oct 22nd. Volunteers will be needed. | The Scarecrow Contest Oct 29. Again, we will be asking members of the team to volunteer to help out that afternoon. It should be a lot of fun. | The Sustainable Jersey Awards Luncheon will be on November 15 at the League of Municipalities Annual Conference. We hope that every member who is available will attend to be recognized for their contributions. | The Living Local Expo is in March; the next planning meeting on Oct 10th. | As usual, there will not be a Nov or Dec meeting. We will have a Holiday Party on Dec 7th.

IN CONCLUSION

The meeting was adjourned 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Corrigan