



EWING GREEN TEAM

Promoting People, the Planet and Prosperity in Ewing

CAROLINE STEWARD*

LOCATION: EWING SENIOR AND COMMUNITY CENTER

PRESENT

Green Team members denoted with an asterisk *

Malissa Arnold *
Pete Boughton
Heidi Furman
John Hoegl*
Kylie King*
Karen Kissel

Joe Mirabella*
Joanne Mullowney*
Caroline Steward*
Sarah Steward
Mark Wetherbee*

INTRODUCTION

The meeting was called to order Joanne Mullowney at 6:40. Green Team members were asked to approve the July 2018 minutes as posted on our website and hot-linked within the meeting reminder email. The additions or corrections included time and place for Direct Install program on October 23rd.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Community Fest is this **Saturday, September 29th**. Check in is 8:30, and we requested that we get an end and larger space for recycling education. We will be doing “trash toss” again. We have a new brochure about the recycling in crisis that we plan to distribute.

Arts: Lisa is collecting plastic lids for a public art project- mosaic mural to be used in pollinator garden.

For **October 27th**- Scarecrow Contest is still on and we are hoping Lisa will be healthy enough to be involved. We will need volunteers to make sure they are set up properly starting on Friday night for scarecrow drop off, and then to man the events on Saturday. We will issue prizes based on age and then on people’s choice. Hopefully, Ewing High School Environmental club can participate.

October 27th- Shred Day, 9AM to 1PM

DISCUSSION/ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ongoing business-

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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GREATER MERCER TRAIL NETWORK

Meeting with Green team representatives present- Caroline, Karen, Pete, Heidi, and Joanne. More than 20 people attended, and Ewing interests in the project were discussed.

MEADOW PROJECT

County will pay for 1-acre development $\frac{1}{2}$ acre between parking lot and diner, and another section at Village on the Green. The project is moving forward, with local funding in the works. Joanne met with Village on the Green Association president, Russ Staniec, to get the association's input for the site.

ENERGY

Major project- Direct Install. A press release is planned for the October Observer, to include an advertisement for working session for small to medium business owners or any interested Ewing citizens on **October 23** at 7pm. We also hope to have an article in US 1 weekly written by volunteer Lynn Robbins.

EWING FALL SPIN

September 29- 27 pre-registered, but many do it on day of. Bike ride starts at 8:15 at Clock Tower at Campus Town. Will be putting up signs soon, dependent on weather.

NEIGHBORHOOD COMMITTEE

Have not met since NNO, but booklet was big success. There is discussion on printing the booklet, and possibly placing an ad in the Observer. Also, the realtors will also be notified about the booklet as a resource for people moving into Ewing. In cases where there are neighborhood associations, we can all encourage proper recycling practices, and possibly use Facebook groups to increase communication and action (such as volunteers to clear storm drains, etc.).

RECYCLING

Issues with Apartments, need better guidance on what is recycled, and need composting assisting

WILDLIFE COMMITTEE

We are working the National Wildlife Federation's **Community Wildlife Habitat Certification** program. People should follow the NWF's principles and garden sustainably and create habitat and then become a certified habitat. The Green Team will do a program at the Ewing library sometime in the Spring (2019). Nearly 30 Ewing gardens are already certified.

EWING PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Garden supplies are in place, but it hasn't been put in yet. The Green Team was reminded to VOTE for the school referendum on **October 2** and to review their polling place. There are many green improvements that will be applied from this referendum. There will be a table at Community Fest promoting the garden and newspaper pots with native seeds to give out. Garden is mostly vegetables for culinary club. Pollinator gardens may be put into the old beds. Recycling issues are still not resolved. Recycle bins are used in the school, but not sorted out when trash is taken out. HS environmental club may help with scarecrow contest.

TRENTON WATER WORKS MEETING

Ewing hosted the meeting. Can this be applied to Sustainable Jersey? Issues about water quality, how to assess if you need the connecting pipe from your curb to the city waterline, that will be replaced by the city, with possible loans to homeowners. The issue of lead solder is tabled for now, and focus is just on pipe. Lead Poisoning- each people can replace their lead pipes, but is there anything upstream that would contaminate- nothing is guaranteed. Water purification and filtering systems will be reviewed and placed on their website for systems that can remove lead- most filters like Brita, Purr etc. aren't made to remove lead. NJ Safe Water Act

SUSTAINABLE JERSEY

Please start writing up a plan for each committee so that credits are documented properly.

OUTSIDE COMMITTEE REPORTS

ETRA

GM construction has begun. Naval Facility has no interest, although some improvements have been made regarding water, but there are complications for when they are razed (contaminations)

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

The EC is working on a tree ordinance to protect the local tree canopy. The EC will function as a shade tree commission which is required to become a Tree City, USA. The tree ordinance will exempt residential properties and focus on public and commercial lands, unlike many other townships in the area. It is our first attempt at codifying a policy to protect our tree canopy which we are losing to rapid development. We will see how it works and amend as needs change in Ewing.

TOWN COUNCIL



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Standardizing grass cutting ordinances- inconsistency over how many inches for grass allowance. It is now 6 inches, and you have 3 days to comply. There is certification available from Department of Health for natural habitat (although no one has utilized it). Movement was made for medical marijuana in Ewing, 6 permits will be issued soon. Idea was suggested that citizens take an active role in clearing their storm drains, as townships often cannot keep up with the demand. Also, leaves cannot be on the street, (use public easement strip) and there is limited time that you can have it there too.

MERCER COUNTY SUSTAINABILITY COALITION MEETING

September 28- Friday at noon- Mercer County sustainability meeting on the recycling crisis. Dan Napoleon from MCIA will present.

CONCLUSION

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM motion to adjourn by Caroline Steward, second by Mark Wetherbee.

Respectfully Submitted,

Malissa K. M. Arnold