



EWING GREEN TEAM

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



MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 24, 2021

IN ATTENDANCE

Heidi Furman*
Evan Crumiller*
Mark Wetherbee*
Lisa Feldman*

Jennifer Keyes-Malone*
Donna Morgan*
Priya Vimalassery*
Pete Boughton

Lynn Robbins
Caroline Steward*
Jack Wolfarth*
Eliot Shawn Housel

The March 2021 Green Team meeting was called to order by Evan Crumiller.

SPRING CLEANUPS

Moody Park clean-up was a great success. Donna and Priya did an amazing job organizing and running the event. We had about 45 volunteers. Lots of full bags of garbage collected, it was hard to keep track. Public Works came by to pick up all the garbage.

EARTH WEEK STREAM CLEANUP APRIL 24TH - REMINDER

We will be running a stream clean-up on April 24th in partnership with The Watershed. Donna is once again our point person on this action. This has already been shared with the public; we have about 50 slots available for volunteers. If we get too many people show up; we can set up a 3rd clean-up site at the trolley line.

Jennifer scouted the area and there is a cat colony. The company adjacent may be feeding them. She will contact EASEL about making sure they are managed. Maybe they can do a 'trap n'neuter' program to address the colony.

JOHNSON TROLLEY TRAIL

We will just have our Green Team members doing a small clean-up event on Saturday, April 3rd at 10:00 am. The sooner we do it, the easier it is before all the foliage develops. It's easier to get trash out. Dress appropriately; you need to wear long pants.

The following volunteered to participate on April 3rd: Jennifer KM, Evan, Lisa, Heidi, Donna, Priya, Mark, Caroline, Kathy W. and Cathy. The clean-up will be at entrance of Whitehead Extension Road (same road as our Community Garden).

Donna will send out a reminder email, Donna will let Amanda, the Americorps Ambassador, know about the date.



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COMMITTEE REPORTS

ARTS

Lisa says that there is not much to report. We are going to do a birdhouse/bird feeder 'upcycling' project with the Arts Commission. Lisa has over 50 ½ gallon milk cartons that she will spray paint for people who don't have access to an empty container. Jennifer is creating a flyer to let people know about this. It will be on our Facebook page, the Arts Commission Facebook and our websites.

People can get creative 'upcycling' and send in photos. We will have a drawing of all entries and the winner will get a 10 lb. bag of bird food (Lisa donating). It's just a fun project to get people in the spring mood and to welcome our bird friends back for spring.

BIKE RIDE

Gary is busy with taxes. He will start after tax season.

GREEN AMENDMENT

Priya will contact Cassidy Burns, the teacher at Ewing High, in charge of the Environmental Club, to get students to help with letters of support.

RECYCLING

We need to do educational flyer for single plastic bag ban. It would be great if we could give out reusable bags; but we don't have the budget. Heidi has done reusable bags made out of t-shirts. She is sending the link on how to make them (see below). We could use our green team t-shirts!
<http://www.grecodesigncompany.com/diy/how-to-make-a-tote-bag-from-a-t-shirt-no-sewing/>

SUSTAINABLE JERSEY RECERTIFICATION

Donna, Heidi, Priya and Lisa. Should get together to start reviewing. We will also be reviewing the different categories during the GT monthly meetings.

WALKING TRAILS

Lynn Robbins has made some good progress. She has touched base with Chuck Latini and the Boy Scout Troop. The trails behind the Municipal Building are pretty much laid out; they are just overgrown. They just need care, and they will be in good shape.

OTHER BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

TOWN COUNCIL

Jennifer shared that at the last Council meeting there was a 1st reading of the update to the Solid Waste Ordinance – Chapter 319. Provisions include the following: Leaves will now have to be collected in PAPER



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bags. Township will no longer collect loose leaves along curbside. Not sure what enforcement will look like. There will have to be some type of warning. We will need an educational flyer.

The Township will do spring clean-up as previous years. Spring is not a good time to spread mulched leaves. We need to do an educational flyer that clearly spells out all the correct guidelines so that residents will have a helpful resource that answers all the new and helpful rules and gardening tips. Joanne may have already started this. Jennifer KM offered to do this, but we need to check with Joanne to make sure we're not working on something that has already been started.

We should include all the helpful waste disposal rules, i.e. residents allowed to get rid of 3 bulk items with trash pick-up. Leaves must be in bags, no longer acceptable is loose leaves at curb – must be in bags. (not sure about enforcement) The informational flyer should be delivered to all homeowners (not renters). We'll have to figure out how to confirm where to send flyer. The landlords need to know the rules. Although people living at location should know as well since they will be putting garbage and recycling out. If renters are violating the rules, the landlords will be responsible.

Branches no longer than 4' long will still be picked up curbside. Brush pick-up is supposed to be the day after your trash is picked up.

Storm water Education We are waiting for materials from ANJEC; they are developing statewide media campaign.

CONCLUSION

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Feldman