



# EWING GREEN TEAM

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



## EWING GREEN TEAM MINUTES

DECEMBER 7, 2022

### IN ATTENDANCE:

Joanne Mullowney

Lisa Feldman

Jennifer Keyes-Mullowney

Karen Kissel

Sonya Travis

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Volunteer Reception is going to be Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at Hollowbrook in the large meeting room. If you are planning on going you need to RSVP so that they can order the right amount of food.
- The next Council Meeting (and last for 2022) will be next Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 pm at the Ewing Municipal Building. Joanne will attend to present the check of the monies collected at the annual bike ride. Every year members of the Bike Ride Committee pick a non-profit to donate the money raised. This year it is Mercer Street Friends. It would be great if other members of the Green Team are present for the presentation.
- EGT Retreat - A reminder that our annual retreat will be held on Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup> at Hollowbrook, (9-12) probably in the Nutrition Room. We will check to see if any other rooms have space for a screen and projector.

### RESTAURANT WEEK

We have the dates for Restaurant Week in Ewing – February 25 – March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023. We need to get a press release done and sent to the Ewing Observer. Joanne will send the press release from last year to Jennifer KM for her to update for this year's event. We have time to get in January's Observer. This is critical to get the word out. In addition to the restaurants that participated last year, we will also send to all restaurants in Ewing. Hopefully more will participate this year.

### EWING TWP CHARGING STATIONS AND EVs UPDATE

Joanne asked Jennifer KM the status of the purchase of Electric Vehicles and charging stations. Two stations were planned for the Ewing Senior and Community center but with the closing due to the fire - should we pick a different location for the two that were slated for there?



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While no specifics have been decided, the Council has put these in the Capitol Plan so these items will be moving forward.

## CLEAN COMMUNITIES

- Clean Communities is on hold. Priya has been working on this. We will wait until Priya attends to discuss this.
- We should do a clean-up of our parks in the spring. Higgs Park off Somerset might be a good option. If we get a good number of people to sign up to participate, we could divvy up the volunteers and clean multiple locations. Once done, all the trash collected would be brought to a central location to be weighed and picked up by public works. This would be a good item to discuss during the retreat.

## WATERSHED AMBASSADOR

We have a new water ambassador replacement. His name is David. He hopes to attend our next meeting in January. Maybe it's time for another rain barrel workshop. We had a great attendance at our first one. People seemed to really appreciate this.

## ROAD SALT STUDY WITH THE WATERSHED

We participated in the Road Salt Study this year. The results are online. Do we want to do it again this coming year? We had people doing this at 2 different locations. One was here and the other was at the towpath. There were 3 tests at each location. It was done before and after a snow event. It was decided to participate again this year.

## STORM WATER

Storm water is another important topic that we should address. We had all worked on locating the many street drains throughout the town and mapping them. The goal was to have people 'adopt=a=drain' and be responsible for keeping that particular drain clear and not clogged with leaves or trash. Joanne has been looking for a practical way to get these 'mapped' but some of the options are costly and we need to find a way to do this without incurring lots of fees.

## TREE CANOPY

Ewing needs more trees, especially since they are cutting acres of trees for the airport terminal project. While public areas to put in new trees might not have enough space, residents would certainly welcome a new tree for their property. We need to educate everyone who gets a free tree on the correct planting and maintenance. We could do educational handouts. We are hoping that the trees will be natives.

County Commissioner Lucille R.S. Walter had attended one of our meetings and said that she is working on Ewing getting plenty of replacement trees because of the large number being taken down at the airport. It's been suggested that we invite the Commissioner to attend one of our meetings, maybe January. We could find out what the status is on the trees from the county and if we can stress the importance of native trees?



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## COMMUNITY FORESTRY MANAGEMENT PLAN

This is important but the Township does not have any one with the necessary credentials. Wonder if one of our volunteers would be willing to take the necessary course if that would be acceptable?

The Township needs to hire Bill Brash to redo the CFMP. It needs regular updates, requires continuing education credits and reports made and staff trained.

## FEATURED ARTIST

The Arts Commission is hosting another 'featured artist' Kenneth Lewis. His reception will be December 15<sup>th</sup>, the same night as the volunteer reception for all Ewing volunteers. We (Green Team) used to get press releases with each new artist, and we would post on ewingnj.org. Since Lisa F. is on the Arts Commission, she can ask for these to be sent again. It maybe we're just now restarting the 'featured artists' after the long Covid hiatus of events like those.

## COUNCIL REPORT

Ewing's Re-Org will be on Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>. Jennifer KM says that the Council wants to thank the Green Team for Sustainable Jersey Silver Certification at one of their meetings. They only have this coming December 13<sup>th</sup> meeting left for year 2022.

SJ

Sustainable Jersey is changing some of their actions.

## CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

A Climate Action Plan should be on our agenda for the future. We need to work on emergency planning and finish flooding map. However, this important topic needs 'buy-in' with the Township.

## ANJEC GRANT

We had a grant from ANJEC in 2019. It was for native plantings in front of the Ewing Senior and Community Center. Sadly, due to various circumstances out of our control we were not able to complete it and now that the Community Center is closed the project is ended without completion.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Submitted by

Lisa Feldman