



EWING GREEN TEAM

Promoting People, the Planet, and Prosperity in Ewing



EGT Meeting Minutes

September 24, 2025

Opening

- Call to order at 7:00pm
- Acknowledgements: Congratulations to: Lexy and Dan. Lexy is getting married on October 30th and Dan had a little girl. Lisa had a hip replacement -- get well soon!
- Approve June and July Minutes (<https://Ewinggreenteam.Org/Meeting-Minutes/>) Approved
- Our guest this evening was Shannon Zisperm, Ewing High rep from their environmental club. Raising awareness/educate community/recycling
- Attendance: Joanne Mullowney, Mark Wetherbee, Kathi Barringer, Heidi Furman, Devin Spence, Karen Sare, Caroline Steward, George Steward, Sonya Travis, Karen Kissel, Lexy Freiling, David Schroth

Upcoming Calendar Events

- Shred Day – October Oct 4th 9 am – 1 pm. Shannon wants to volunteer. Joanne to email Sign up Genius to her.
- Community Fest- October 18th abt. 8 am – 4pm bike ride is same day. Sonya and Karen have volunteered, anyone else? Joanne will ask Evan if anyone from the Environmental Commission would volunteer and send Sign-up Genius.
- Trunk or Treat? – Oct 25th 3 – 4:30 (arrive at 2). Shannon thinks she can help, if there is no one else, Joanne will not sign us up
- ANJEC Conference Oct 10th in New Brunswick. A conference for environmental commission members, opportunity for continuing education credits deadline for signing up fast approaching; Joe Mirabella and Joanne are going.
- October 8th, 3-4:15 at TCNJ/ CRAN (Climate Resolution Action Network); check with Lexy.

Committee Reports

- 250 Tree Initiative. Devin reports: list of desired species to plant available. Info listed ongoing at bottom of weekly Ewing newsletters. Tree prices are finalized on the memorial donations' webpage. See website: <https://ewingnj.org/memorial-donations> Plaques can be provided by donor.
- Pledge to plant Don Barringer, Dan Steinberg - first two participants.
- Recommended planting species on same web page.
- Where are we with businesses? What are we doing with businesses? Email to businesses needs to be approved. New business directory includes emails (about 50 right now). Joanne will provide to Devin.
- Need more residential outreach.



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- Trees - CFMP report (COMMUNITY FORESTRY MANAGEMENT PLAN). The plan is to hire a certified forester to complete the plan and Inventory, which is required. We will apply for a grant: \$15k for inventory, \$5k for plan. DEP grant, Division of Forestry
- Native Plant Initiative – Dan / Ryan / Devin...no update.
- Bike ride – George Steward. Scope=permit approved in September. Start/stop at Campus Town. Coordinating with Ewing PD to support throughout the Township @ intersections. Ride scheduled for 10/18.
- Resolution in support of New Jersey passing a Climate Superfund Act. (Lexy and Dave) report. Ewing passed this resolution, 49th municipality to do so.
- Clean Communities - Karen NO REPORT
 - Delaware River Cleanup? Was anyone able to attend? Twenty bags of trash from half a dozen volunteers.
 - Fall Cleanup – partnerships to get better turn out?
- SJ – Joanne. Sustainable Jersey certified bronze -- 9/24/25 :) award is in November at League of Municipalities luncheon in Atlantic City. Need new badge for letterhead/website.

New Business Possibilities

- Karen - speaker from Rutgers Cooperative Extension - Mercer County. Justine Gray is interested in speaking at our next meeting; discussing natives and tree planting procedures?
- Ongoing update needed - ERI /NRI (Environmental Resource Inventory / Natural Resource Inventory). Last done in 2016, needs update in 2026 - also the update to the Master Plan is being worked on.
- More continuing ed...
 - A lot of us have minimal actual environmental training and we need to do what we can to up our game. More speakers... more webinars, CEUs. Perhaps someone can volunteer to stay on top of continuing ed opportunities and share them with the group...? We need CEUs for urban and community forestry division accreditation. Consider setting CEU goals for EGT members?
- EGT Strategic Plan needs to be revisited. <https://ewingnj.org/documents-list/departments/documents/green-team/113-ewing-green-teamstrategic-plan/file>
- Outreach assistance needed
 - Newsletters...
 - Website updates.... The website needs an overhaul. Remove old stuff, add new. An additional administrator would be very helpful. Lexy volunteered to help with website (after her wedding)
 - FB updates... Sonya volunteered to help with Facebook updates
- Planning and Zoning Boards – staying on top of development issues. We need to promote preserved open spaces throughout the township. Chuck? Can he attend a meeting? December?



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- SJ certification cycle is every three years. Do we want to push to redo our Sustainable Jersey certification next year to upgrade to silver?
- New members for appointments for next year? Lisa will be stepping down, do any unofficial attendees at our meetings want to be to be officially appointed?
- Student Ambassador? Shannon is a senior; Ethan is a sophomore. Since ambassadors are selected in January, the team would prefer a younger volunteer as seniors will move on in just a few months. Ethan has been unresponsive.

Reports from Outside Committees and Commissions

- Council passed resolution prohibiting release of balloons outdoors. They also passed an ordinance on trash cans being left out too long [must be removed by 6am the day following trash pickup]. first offense=warning, 1st fine=\$100, repeat offenders, fines increase. Flu vaccine clinic is upcoming. add recently passed resolutions to the weekly newsletter? How about a light pollution resolution?

Conclusion

- Meeting adjourned at 8:32pm.

2025 Meeting Dates and Locations

- Oct 22nd at 7 pm at Hollowbrook - in Community Room
- No November meeting
- Dec 3rd at 7 pm at Hollowbrook - in Community Room (first Wednesday due to end of the year holidays)
- Planning summit for next year? Usually, a Saturday in January...