

TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD, WARREN COUNTY

Green Team Minutes

February 12, 2015

The Green Team meeting was held this date at the Mansfield Township Municipal Building, 100 Port Murray Road, Port Murray, N.J. The meeting was called to order at 8:30 p.m.

Present : Dawn Smith, Robert Jewell, Elaine Drazek, Leigh Raffaele, Joe Watters,
Connie Andershonis, and JoAnn Fascenelli

Absent : Jennifer Keggan

Also Present: Ruth Pante' (Environmental Commission) and 3 members of the public (Donald Proefrock, Jessie Lubkiewicz, and Michael Misertino)

Finance Report: Sustainable Jersey Grant balance is \$ 69.64 and the Green Donation Trust fund has a balance of \$ 587.29. Mr. Proefrock is working on completing the final grant paperwork for submission by March 31, 2015 to Sustainable Jersey.

Prescription Drug Safety & Disposal: Mrs. Fascenelli will follow up with the Township Police Department regarding the next collection date.

Reusable Bag Education Program: Mrs. Andershonis is compiling a list of businesses that offer reusable bags for free or for sale at their location.

Community Garden: The Green Team will continue to research this action item.

Backyard Composting Workshop: Mr. Lubkiewicz shared his experiences with composting and vermicomposting. Vermicompost is the product or process of composting using various worms, usually red wigglers, white worms, and other earthworms to create a heterogeneous mixture of decomposing vegetable or food waste, bedding materials, and vermicast. He also spoke briefly about duty composting (dog manure). The Green Team and Environmental Commission discussed ideas for the workshop. Mrs. Smith stated she spoke with an individual that is interested in participating in the workshop as well. Mr. Misertino also expressed an interest. Mrs. Fascenelli will keep everyone in the loop regarding this action item.

Support Local Businesses: Mrs. Raffaele will be contacting businesses in order to update their information. Once this is completed the Township's website will also be updated.

Carbon Footprint: Mr. Proefrock has been updating the spreadsheet. He advised that 2010 is complete and he is presently working on 2011. The spreadsheet will contain data from January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2014.

Materials Reuse Program: Mrs. Smith developed a flyer and registration form for this action item. Both Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Andershonis felt that Donald's Farm would be an ideal location for the flea market style event. Mrs. Fascenelli will speak with the Township Clerk regarding insurance.

Points for Recertification:

Grass cut it and leave it – Mrs. Smith redesigned the flyer for this action item.

Paper Shredding Events – Mrs. Fascenelli forwarded documentation (2013 & 2014) to Ms. Keggan for this action item.

Large Rigid Plastics: Mrs. Fascenelli stated she spoke with Trinity Recycling regarding obtaining a container for the collection of large rigid plastics. Trinity advised that this type of plastic is very difficult to recycle due to cross contamination and low market value. A full 40 yard roll off container usually contains ¾ of a ton. There would be a drop off fee of \$135.00 and a switch fee of \$ 225.00. If the container is not switched at least once or twice a year, a yearly rental fee of \$ 400.00 to \$ 500.00 would have to be charged. Mrs. Fascenelli felt that since the Township does provide a large rigid plastics container once a year during the electronics collection event that having a container year round would not benefit the Township residents enough to offset the cost.

SCHEDULED EVENTS:

March 19, 2015 – The Emerald Ash Borer Presentation – Mansfield Township Municipal Building at 7:00 pm presented by John Cambridge, PH.D candidate in the Rutgers Department of Entomology.

April 25, 2015 – Townwide Yard Sale

October 24, 2015 – Free Town-Wide Paper Shredding Event – Mansfield Township Department of Public Works (1710 Route 57) 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Next Green Team Meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2015 at 7:30 pm at the Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnn Fascenelli