

Minutes

October 6, 2017 at 10:30 am

DPW conference room

Present: Marnie Vyff, Mimi Kaplan, Janet Horst, Paul Odenwelder, Frank Sanchez

1. **Comments from the Public:** None

2. Marnie gave out the list of actions which: have been accepted (180 points), have been submitted (125 more points) and still being worked on (of which we need 45 points). Marnie suggest we focus on the priority actions and those that we are almost done with. She has taken a number of actions off the list that we certainly won't achieve. (See October 2017 List)

3. We then discussed what needs to be done for various actions.

Historic preservation element – has already been rejected and Marnie gave Mimi the reasoning they emailed. It seems we discuss too much about the ordinance and not enough about the historic preservation element of the master plan. Mimi will rewrite.

Sustainable land-use pledge – should be going before the borough council either October 9 or October 21. Marnie and Janet have done a good job rewriting, and the lawyer has applied proper format. Sustainable jersey has okayed the draft that Marnie sent them.

Water actions – me has the new water leaks report. She says 17 leaks were found and eight have been fixed by the end of August 2017. Mimi will email the DPW minutes and the report to Marnie. Marnie has a lot of other material from Mark Prusina that she just hasn't been able to get into sustainable jersey because she ran out of time. There are a few actions that can possibly get points for us. She will work on getting the information submitted.

Green Business – Mimi thinks she can make this one happen. There are 49 businesses and Mountain Lakes. Five of these businesses need sign on. We will shoot for 10 and give any business that signs on one or two bags. The group discussed what was most important for the pledge. Mimi and Janet set up a meeting to get it done.

Bag Challenge – Marnie asked Frank to help organize in the school the Bag It movie. Marnie and Mimi will go talk to the Environmental Club about helping get signatures.

Franks projects

Frank will send Marnie any information he has that can be of use for the municipalities actions.

Entrepreneurial club – over 100 members, research environmental problems. Then, a few members decide on a company that needs to be started that is environmental in nature. Aero Farms in Newark is the largest hydroponic company.

The environmental commission and Shade tree commission junior member – We still don't have one and we would like Frank to re-submit the request.

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Bicycle actions – Janet has two out of five bike racks paid for. They are \$500 plus installation each. And it will send Marnie the DPW minutes where they discussed the bike racks. This may not be done for the November 19 deadline.

Innovative Community Project 2 – Janet will be presenting her invasives resolution to the Borough Council on Oct 21st.

Recycling Education – Frank will send Marnie any information that he has of the student's recycling education. Mimi suggests we feel very proud of our dual stream recycling because it is of higher quality and we get paid more for it.

Composting Education – Marnie will Post information for buying composters now that the leaves are beginning to fall.

4. Topics discussed for future actions

The borough is going to need to redo their **master plan and environmental resource inventory (ERI)** soon. We would like a number of actions to be part of those redos. The borough hall is also up for renovation and we feel it should be a green renovation. Some actions that can apply to these are: Green Building Policy/Resolution, Create a Green Development Checklist, Green Building Education, and Green Building and Environmental Sustainability Element.

Emerald Ash tree Borer (EAB) - Ash trees in Mountain Lakes are going to die in the next 4 years. ML has about 75 ash trees along the roads and we have so many pocket parks. The most expensive trees to remove will be those in pocket parks adjacent to people's backyards. Have to be removed by hand and not by bucket truck. Janet suggests we applied for Morris county open space money. Mountain Lakes pays about \$70,000 a year to it and has not received anything from it. The Clean Communities grant may be another source of funding for these trees. Suggests we use the ash wood for the beach shack renovation and possibly the Borough Hall renovation. Marnie will contact a former student of hers who is a lumberjack.

Our next meeting will be November 3, 2017 at 10:30 am.

Respectfully submitted by Marnie Vyff.