

Hammonton Green Committee | Minutes from the February 1, 2021 Meeting (Meeting held virtually)

Green Committee Members attending:

Jeanette DePiero, Linda Esposito, Mica McCullough, Amy Menzel, Lisa Zeuner

Friends of the Green Committee & Guests:

Dan Bachalis, Dudley Prince

Future Events

For safety, future events planned as virtual.

Lisa shared ideas for informational presentations:

- Joe Russel from Summersweet Native Plants has prerecorded talk from Native Plant Society. Viewers can watch the film first, reconvene after viewing for discussion, Q&A. Could also coordinate with Permaculture Group to plan a possible visit in May/June
- David Yeager, Hamilton Twp. Green Team: composting - pre recorded video is also available. When in-person activities are safe, could build at the Garden as a demo. Note: ACUA hosting online compost bin, rain barrel sale with pickup April 17
- Dave would also like to host people at his business, Auto Recycling
- ESPOMA, John Harrison has possible virtual tours of the facility

Additional Options:

- Virtual Green Drinks – Brewery/Wineries; tastings and tours – speak to Sustainable South Jersey for guidance. Their beer tasting event; participants registered, took tickets to local breweries to pick up samples. We would want to feature all 3 local breweries if possible.

Adopt a Road Clean Ups

Next Clean Up: **Saturday, February 27 @ 10:00** meet at Hammonton library

Linda to contact HHS rep to encourage student participation

More dates to be set at upcoming meeting

Jonathan Olivo may also be able to reach out to school contacts to share the offer of potential service work.

Budget/Finances

Income origin from Green Day vendors and sponsors, garden plot rentals

Account Total: approx. \$10,000

Currently reviewing to determine income from Garden vs. Green Day

Income and Expenses anticipated: Website renewal, Domain name renewal, outstanding payments/reimbursements for Harvest fest entertainment.

Best Practice: Whenever possible, purchases should be made through Purchase Order through Frank Zuber/town business office rather than seek reimbursement

Community Garden

New raised beds will be reconfigured to accommodate town mower. Half of the garden to be done in 2021, second half the following year. Pricing is being researched for different wood options.

Sustainable Jersey

Dan will contact Town Officials to Collaborate on Actions – **meeting date February 22 @7:00**
Bob Vettese, Scott Rivera and Frank Zuber were invited to attend to discuss fleet inventory, carbon footprint, etc.

Recertification will be submitted annually.

June is the next deadline

Dan will also be speaking to town about a small stipend to fund work done by Stockton students.

Sustainable Jersey Hub is planning a virtual event for World Water Day March 22.

Single Use Plastics – the Leviathan by Don Swenson

The Leviathan, a public education and art installation to raise awareness about single use bags is under construction at the Maker's Space. Help is needed to add bags – Dan is checking on how volunteers can assist. **A meeting to discuss the educational component was set for Friday, Feb. 5 at 12 noon.** Amy will send a Zoom invitation.

Lake Water Quality Advisory Committee

Dan invites GC members to **join March 8 @7:00**

Stockton professors Emma Witt and Aaron Stoller will update on the work students have done with water testing and vegetation study

Dan will provide link to this meeting

Other notes:

Amy reached out to local churches, Puerto Rican Civic Club, Allies in Caring with information on NJ Clean Energy Program LED Bulb Giveaway. The Baptist Church was the only one to respond. NJ Clean Energy Program is now focused on Food Banks, not churches, but good to initiate contact with these groups.

Next GC Meeting: Monday, March 1st, 7:00 via Zoom