

Mount Rainier Green Team
December 14, 2015 7:00-8:30 PM
Joe's Movement Emporium (moved from City Hall)

Attendees

Joseph Jakuta
Brian Higgins
Patricio Llerena
Jessica Lawrence
Jes Ellis
Krista Schlyer

Agenda

1. **School Green Team**

Jes began by providing slides showing how schools become Green Certified. The three areas are curriculum, student practices, and community partnerships. We would likely help out in the second category, and then help out in the third just by assisting. Shifting practices is not just coming into give a lesson. Areas that may be of use are helping the students improve energy in the classroom, have onsite habitat restoration, installing bike racks, recycling, and composting. Having the students participate in the pocket park project could be a potential avenue to achieve some of the goals, and perhaps stormwater fees from local development projects could provide funding. Other groups such as the tree commission may be able to help as well. Jes also sought funding to purchase recycling aprons for student recyclers.

- Jes will provide the slides to the Green Team

- Jes will compile a work plan so that interested Green Team members can participate in the School Green Team

- Joseph will talk to Veronica about the Green Team budget and if funds are available

- Someone needs to reach out to Adam Ortiz concerning the status of PG County composting

- Someone needs to look into the pocket park funding opportunities discussed.

2. **Development Projects**

a. Transportation Infrastructure

i. Buchanan Green Street - skipped

ii. Kaywood Parking Lot

Joseph reviewed the discussion he and Veronica had with the developers concerning the Kaywood parking lot. A list of recommendations was put together to provide to the city council at the next work session. The recommendations included, having sharrows painted, having an incline to the parking lot to prevent runoff going into the street, planting native trees,

and tearing up the slanted painted areas so they can be replaced with rain gardens.

iii. **SHA Landscape Plan - skipped**

b. **Real Estate**

i. **City Council Letter**

The sections of the letter will be removed that request specific documents since the LEED checklist has been obtained and the land disposition agreement is not vital at this point. The only other change to the letter will be to cc the MUTC as a whole.

- The letter will be presented at the city council work session on December 15.

ii. **Menkiti**

Joseph described the meeting that was hosted two weeks prior by Menkiti, that we had obtained a copy of the LEED checklist and that we would meet with on Thursday to discuss the checklist. Jessica Lawrence brought up the fact that there was now a LEED v4 checklist, but needed to look into whether it was required yet. There was also question as to which version of ASHRAE was required under PG County Code at this point since the PG County website was unclear.

- Joseph will compile the list of questions for Menkiti for review.

iii. **Flywheel**

Jessica provided updates on the project. The schedule for the project is mid February for excavation, early April the units will be brought to the site, and installation will occur soon after that. There are plans for a ribbon cutting that the Green Team should participate in. Jes asked if there was still a possibility of having a learning experience for the elementary school students. Jessica said that they had not gotten the grants they had hoped for for a longer project but something could probably be arranged for a field trip. Flywheel is working with PG Community College students for a hands on learning experience concerning Net Zero homes. Joseph mentioned having Flywheel include a booth on the project at the Spring Green Fair at the Nature Center and possibly have an evening event oriented towards having parties around the DC area that are interested in learning about the project and its green nature.

3. Long Term Goal: Pay As You Throw

a. **Recycling Analysis**

Joseph discussed the request from city council to present on the recycling bin analysis at the next city council work session. The analysis itself has not been expanded since MaryLee presented it, but we did have new information concerning the need of having colored bins devoted to recycling, and larger bins, preferably 64 gallon one.

4. Long Term Goal: Carbon Footprint Reductions

a. **Renewable Purchasing**

We are still waiting for bills or access to the PEPCO account to be provided to Groundwell.

- **Joseph will follow up with city staff and/or city council members.**

5. **Topics for a Later Date**

a. **Urban Green - skipped**

b. **College Park Bikeshare**

Patricio discussed the meeting he attended concerning the bikeshare system being started in College Park and its potential to be added in Mt Rainier. The system would be independent of Capitol Bikeshare.

- **Joseph will reach out to the contact to see if they can meet with us at a later date.**

c. **Pocket Park Update - See School Update**

d. **Green Purchasing**

Joseph was mistaken as to who was leading this. This is a task that was directed to Jessica Love at a prior meeting and Joseph will follow up with Veronica to see how this is progressing.

e. **Bike Grant**

Patricio mentioned a possibly beneficial project that should be discussed in conjunction with the bike grant. It is essentially a public bike stand with an attached pump and select tools that would allow residents to conduct repairs at various times.

- **Patricio will provide a picture of an example of the one located in Berwyn Heights.**

- **Joseph will talk with Samantha about having her talk to the grant at the next meeting.**

f. **Backyard Agriculture**

Joseph informed the committee that he had attended a zoning focus group with town and county officials and brought up the subject. The decisions in regards to this reside with the county at this juncture and PG hens is making some effort to realize a change so we decided to conduct no further work on this subject at this time.

Upcoming Events

Next Meeting: January 11, 2016