

Draft Mount Rainier Green Team Minutes
January 11, 2016 7:00-8:30 PM
City Hall

Joseph Jakuta
Veronica Owens
Jessica Love
Bill Updike
Krista Schyler
Patricio Llerena
Serenella Linares
Scott Wilson

Minutes

1. **Logistics**

Email issues have been resolved. For future reference, both green@20712.org and mtrainiergreenteam@googlegroups.com email the whole Green Team except city staff. You can manage your email preferences through the google group. mtrainiergreenteam@gmail.com was set up to be the email address for the chair and currently only goes to Joseph.

2. **Bike Grant**

- *Joseph will meet with Samantha prior to the next meeting so we can discuss this in February since she was unable to attend.*

3. **Development Projects**

a. **Transportation Infrastructure**

i. **Buchanan Green Street**

The thrust of the plan is to address stormwater impact. The road plan includes a cycle track and there were questions about connectivity since it does not run to Queens Chapel Road yet. There was a discussion of include a placard explaining the environmental benefits of the street and that it should resemble the one MaryLee developed for the nature center. There was also discussion of the importance of temporary fencing to protect the planting, though it is possible the more permanent fencing could be included if part of a 1% art project or in conjunction with a school project. Also discussed was the upcoming project involving the Senior Center that abuts Buchanan Street as well and the idea of ordinances requiring repaving of roads.

- *Veronica can provide digital copies of the plans via email.*

- *Joseph will reach out to Lynn about a contact at the pool to work with.*

- *Joseph will reach out to obtain any files from the nature center project.*

- *Joseph will look into Hyattsville's repaving ordinance.*

ii. **Kaywood Parking Lot**

Joseph and Veronica discussed meeting with Kaywood representatives concerning the parking lot and that Joseph took the concerns the Green

Team had at the last meeting to the last city council work session, which included sharrows, plantings instead of painting to demarcate no parking, and use native trees. We thought it would be a good idea for the team to estimate the cost savings from participation in the Rain Check program for this and the Senior Home project.

- *Krista will look into financial benefits of the Rain Check program*

- *Veronica will follow up with Kaywood on the sharrows and the Rain Check Savings*

iii. **SHA Landscape Plan**

Veronica reviewed the current planting plan and the only suggestion of note was to consider creeping phlox as a replacement ground cover plant.

b. **Real Estate**

i. **City Council Letter**

The city council responded positively to the letter concerning looking at an ordinance for greener building. Jessica Lawrence will be spearheading this project. One challenge will be determining whether we are preempted by the county in regards to some of the changes we would like for a greener building code.

ii. **Menkiti**

Bill, Jessica Lawrence, and Joseph met with Menkiti prior to Christmas concerning their LEED checklist. They have a good opportunity with their plans to achieve LEED gold. We discussed several things that could be financed through TIF including an electric vehicle parking space, but needed to follow up with them.

- *Bill will follow up with Menkiti on TIF.*

iii. **Urban Green**

The project still needs permits and should occur in the March time frame.

4. **Long Term Goal: Pay As You Throw**

a. **Recycling Update**

Joseph discussed meeting with the city council concerning recycling bins and their interest in the 32 gallon bins. However, a new recycling truck may be needed and could change the calculus. Serenella pointed out the need for an educational component of any new recycling project.

- *Joseph will look into the possibility of getting a grant to fund a zero waste plan.*

- *Joseph will reach out to Public Works concerning the need for a new truck.*

- *Joseph will send Jessica information on the grants he found for recycling bins.*

5. **Long Term Goal: Carbon Footprint Reductions**

a. **Renewable Purchasing**

In the long term we should start looking beyond renewable purchasing to more solar panels and reducing energy need.

Jessica will work directly with Patrick from Groundswell to get the data necessary for completing the quotes.

6. Chesapeake Capstone Project

Jessica Love discussed here capstone project to install rain barrels in Mount Rainier. It would be an educational and demonstration project. Funding may occur through a Chesapeake Bay Trust mini-grant. We discussed the pros and cons of buying pre-made barrels and make your own using Pepsi barrels, the later of which approach could involve the tool shed. There was also discussion of art as part of the project.

7. Topics for a Later Date

Krista requested discussion of the county conservation plan at the next meeting and that we should develop comments (potentially among other green teams).

- *Joseph will reach out to Mike Hunninghake to see if there is interest in multiple group comments.*

Serenella requested discussion of the Green Fair at the next meeting and we will discuss what the Green Team will do at the fair.

- a. College Park Bikeshare - Patricio**
- b. Pocket Park Update - Krista Schlyer**
- c. Green Purchasing - City Staff**

Upcoming Events

Next Meeting: February 15, 2016

Spring Green Fair: April 16, 2016

Mount Rainier Day: May 21, 2016