

**Mount Rainier Green Team Minutes**  
**October 17, 2016 7:00-9:00 PM**  
**City Hall**

**Attendees**

Joseph Jakuta  
Jessica Love  
MaryLee Haughwout  
Scott Wilson  
Sam McCormally

**1. Email List Management - Added**

There have been issues raised by some Team Members about increasing levels of forwards to the list. The list is there to serve the particular purposes of the Green Team and this should be reiterated. To help alleviate excess emails the email list will become moderated for the time being. A request was made by MaryLee that the google calendar mechanism wasn't working for reminders and an alternative be found to increase awareness of upcoming meetings.

*- Joseph will email the Green Team with the new email policy.*

*- Joseph will send out reminders via email of upcoming meetings in addition to the google calendar invites and stress the need to arrive near 7 PM since we cannot leave the door unlocked during the meeting.*

**2. Events**

**a. America Recycles Day**

We should promote America Recycles Day on a variety of social media we have access to and perhaps try and work with the city to promote it on the city social media accounts. Perhaps this can be used as an impetus to update the recycling information on the city website. If it gets converted from pdf to a regular web page services like google can provide spanish translation.

*- We will send Jessica Love the materials produced several years ago with recycling information.*

*- We will reach out to Samantha about the possibility of website updates.*

*- Joseph will also send Jessica the phone app that is available to help find recycling.*

*- We need to determine if the materials PG County accepts have changed since they moved to a new facility.*

**b. Mt Rainier Day Planning Assessment**

The parade was fairly successful, though the weather was not very pleasant. The town seemed to appreciate the compost bin float, but the Green Team banner did not arrive in time so the two additional volunteers were not needed. We did give away the compost bin package at the raffle. A good number of the postcards (rain check program, styrofoam ban, and compost bins for sale).

**c. Green Ambassadors Assessment**

Joseph met with the children that volunteered to help pick up recycling on Fridays at Thomas Stone to discuss the importance of recycling and present the green aprons purchased by the Green Team on October 14. Jes Ellis discussed the possibility of Green Team members participating in an afterschool activity concerning environmental issues as well.

**d. Clean Up Green Up**

Clean Up Green Up is being held the same day as many other city events on October 29 and we don't think the capacity is there to support the event. We should consider

participating in the spring. There may still be an opportunity to partner with Councilmember Loh on a trash pick up in the fall that is separate from the county efforts.  
- *Joseph will reach out to Council Member Loh concerning a trash pick up opportunity.*

e. **Rain Check Tour**

MaryLee is continuing to work with another resident, Emerson, and Hannah from the county program to put together a tour of rain check projects in Mt Rainier. Given the time frames the event will not be held until the spring. We should consider using our section of the Message prior to the event, likely the April/May issue, to promote both the event and the Rain check program itself.

f. **December 7 Holiday Open House - Added**

Miranda discussed this opportunity directly before the meeting. There will be an opportunity for the Green Team, among other committees, to have a table at a city-wide open house. We could provide information, potentially have speakers, and probably develop a holiday focus for the event.

3. **EnviroMinute**

Jessica Love is looking for help with the EnviroMinute. In particular, Jessica is looking for people to participate in videos with their expertise. She is looking in particular subject wise at aligning issues.

4. **Chesapeake Bay Trust All Hands On - GI Plan**

There is an opportunity to get some volunteers from a CB Trust program to help us implement the city's Green Infrastructure plan. There is a question as to whether the city will need to fund any materials and whether CB Trust will help with maintenance.

- *Team Members should begin to think about projects to undertake if we pursue this.*

- *Joseph will follow up with CB Trust to answer the questions posed by the Green Team.*

5. **Complete Streets**

The specific information that we have provided on specific blocks in need of work have been helpful to the staff. In the long term there will be a form that can be filled out. As the plan moves forward the Green Team is interested in making sure the overarching decisions mesh with the green infrastructure plans (e.g., bump outs with rain water collection instead of speed bumps). There could be opportunities for grants to implement this type of work available.

6. **County Policies**

a. **RCP**

Joseph briefly discussed his review of the Draft Resource Conservation Plan in light of our comments. The Team felt that we have provided the feedback we needed to and that we did not have the bandwidth for further work on this area.

b. **Zoning Rewrite & Building Codes**

Joseph reminded the Team about the opportunities to comment on the draft zoning, in particular the Green Building Code section. The Team felt we did not have the bandwidth for much further work on this area, though if those with expertise in the area would like to pursue this work (e.g., Jessica and Bill) we could reconsider. There is a zoning letter on the agenda being discussed during the work session tomorrow though and if that seems like a viable opportunity to push the City Council to call for better building codes Joseph will send the Council a letter.

7. **Styrofoam Ban Business Outreach**

Tabled

8. **Parks Plan**

There are three parks (Spring Park, Richardson Park, and the Community Service Park) owned by the city, one owned by the school board (Gazebo Park), and the remainder are M-NCPPC. We likely have the most ability to improve the parks owned by the city. There is a process

underway to lease the 31st Street Pocket Park from M-NCPPC to implement some type of community garden, potentially a pollinator garden. Developing a park plan might be a bit of a lift for our group since it would go beyond just green issues (e.g., public safety) so a recommendation might be best. The group felt that recommendations might be the best way to proceed.

*-Sam McCormally will begin to look into ideas for a recommendation*

*-Joseph will reach out to city staff to determine if a recommendation is an appropriate approach.*

**9. Tree Ordinance**

Progress is being made on a new draft of the ordinance to eliminate some confusing language.

The draft will include a 2 for 1 ratio of replacement for cutting down healthy trees. There will also be requirements for utilities to replace. The second reading should occur in November.

**10. Development Projects**

Tabled

**11. Topics for a Later Date**

- a. Mosquito Control**
- b. Snow Emergencies**
- c. Recycling Bins**
- d. LED Street Lights**
- e. LED for Buildings**
- f. College Park Bikeshare**
- g. Fee in Lieu Of**