

Mount Rainier Green Team Agenda
November 14, 2016 7:00-9:00 PM
City Hall

Joseph Jakuta
Jessica Love
Kimberly Choi
Trey Sherard
MaryLee Haughwout
Sam McCormally

1. Anacostia Riverkeepers

Trey from the Anacostia Riverkeepers talked about a project underway to install a bandalong on the concrete river under at 30th street to collect trash. Because the waterway is concrete it typically has a slow trickle, except during rain events, when the flow becomes dramatic transporting built up trash. The device would float passively and have polyethylene booms to limit UV ray leaching. Several other areas projects are underway, including on Nash Run, but this will be the first project in Prince George's County. The project exists to help the Anacostia achieve a trash Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) of zero, and the funding for the project comes from that. Anacostia Riverkeepers are interested in having us help with outreach and working with our elected officials on an opening event. There seems to be a need to have the Green Team get together 10-20 volunteers once or twice a year for about three hours an event to clean the trap. The project should be installed in March and an event to educate the residents and promote the project will occur then.

- The Green Team will use our column in the Message and our facebook feed to promote the event.

2. Styrofoam Ban Data Collection

Joseph has acting as a secret shopper to survey compliance of the styrofoam ban among Mt Rainier businesses, though only about half of all food service businesses have been reached to date. It is our understanding that the ban on styrofoam purchases started on January 1, which gave time for restaurants to phase out usage by July 1. Several options were discussed including getting more information from the county, reaching out to MRBA to set up an event, promoting the compliers with the community, sending out information to the restaurants. The consensus was focus on the first two at this point.

- Joseph will work on following up with finding out more from the county and then setting up something with the MRBA.

3. Chesapeake Bay Trust All Hands On - GI Plan

Kimberly discussed the all hands on program. Mt Rainier was recommended for the event where CB

Trust volunteers help implement a day long project with a learning component due to our success in sustainable Maryland and our Green Infrastructure program. There is about a 1 in 3 chance of winning the grant, due February 24, and it comes with 1500 to 2750 in funds for supplies. There are four dates available for an event. A project would likely involve improvements of a park, either through native plantings of trees or rain gardens. Whatever is worked on there remains the issue of maintenance. A project involving roads is likely not possible. Several parks that are owned by the city or M-NCPPC were discussed. *-MaryLee and Sam will begin looking at various parks in order to find a potential park location for a project.*

4. Arundel/34th Street Project

This item was quickly discussed since some emails went unnoticed in the past month concerning

the topic. We need to provide feedback on the plan as soon as we can.

- *Joseph will distribute the near complete plan to the Green Team*

- *Joseph will begin compiling a comment document to send to the council and city staff*

5. Events

a. America Recycles Day - Assessment

Daily recycling tips were posted on the Green Team's facebook leading up to the day. There was no way to tell how many residents signed, but the facebook posts reach about a dozen people each. It does not appear that Samantha ever reposted any of our materials. Joseph did not get a chance to update the city's recycling guide, but Jessica has been working on it. - *Joseph will reach out to Samantha to see if the city can repost the information on the city's facebook page.*

b. Christmas City Open House - Green Team Table

The Green Team will have a table at the citywide open house (our table will be located at public works). We will have the same information available for the public as was at Mt Rainier Day, a signup sheet for the team and for action events, possibly some additional fliers, treats, and some sort of fun green display. Some other committees (e.g., the Tree Commission) will not be able to attend and we can hand out relevant *information for them as well.*

- *Joseph will staff the table*

- *Green Team members should suggest any green holiday fun activities/props for the table*

c. Rain Check Tour - Tabled

6. Lead Awareness

The Green Team member that requested the topic and had been researching it was not in attendance, but we discussed several sources of lead exposure, soil, water, and paint and that working on communicating it to the public should be a priority in the long term once more information is gathered given its impact on public health. We will wait on further work until we can see what other research has been done.

7. Green Building Code Letter from City

This letter originated as a paragraph in a letter Council Member Loh had worked on with a Green Team/MUTC member for inclusion in a letter that predominantly concerned MUTC zoning. The letter got split off and will focus exclusively on improved building codes. The first reading is tomorrow night and the Green Team should try to attend to support the letter.

8. Development Projects - Tabled

9. Topics for a Later Date

a. Complete Streets

b. Parks Plan

c. Mosquito Control

d. Snow Emergencies

e. Recycling Bins

f. LED Street Lights

g. LED for Buildings

h. College Park Bikeshare

i. Fee in Lieu Of

Upcoming Events

Next Meeting: December 12, 2016 at 7PM

SM Sustainability Metrics Workshop: November 16, 2016

City Open House: December 7, 2016 at 6:30PM