

**Mount Rainier Green Team Agenda**  
**July 10, 2016 7:00-9:00 PM**  
**City Hall**

**Joseph Jakuta**  
**Doug Adams**  
**Jessica Love**  
**Otylia Babiak**  
**Mimi McKindley-Ward**  
**MaryLee Haughwout**  
**Nia Freeman**

**1. August Meeting Canceled**

*- Joseph will check the city website to see if it is up to date with the cancellation.*

**2. Zoning Rewrite Meeting**

County is in the process of rewriting the zoning code and the Green Team had recommended that would be the best way to push for a greener building code after having been charged by the City Council to look into the issue. The upcoming zoning meeting could be an opportunity for members to go voice support for stronger building standards. In February Council Member Taveras held a District specific meeting and Doug attended that to discuss urban agriculture. Doug thought it might be more important to voice concerns directly to Taveras. There aren't many currently pending projects in Mt Rainier that would be affected by improved building codes, but in the long term, especially if the annexation occurs the green building codes could impact Mount Rainier more. The meeting is Upper Marlboro next Monday.

*- Joseph will send an email out to the group to see who is interested.*

**3. Sustainable Maryland Recertification**

This program is why the Green Team was created. Municipalities receive points on how many actions they undertake in a variety of categories and need a certain number of points to get certified. There are also innovative demonstration projects when actions don't fit a predefined category. We are up for our third certification and can use this as opportunity to recommend particular items. They are strict about the documentation and we need to show that municipal involvement, though sometimes it could be the city needs to only somewhat involved.

"Conduct Community Barriers and Benefits Assessment" could help with some of the issues that have been raised recently by some member of the community concerning outreach and would help to achieve many of the goals we discuss. Otylia mentioned the idea of a business registry and maybe work with the MRBA could be a path. The SRC research center could also be useful tool for the residents.

The Green School program is an uphill battle but we should talk to Jes Ellis about any possibilities. Nia arrived later and this topic was mentioned in brief again.

Concerning the healthy food section. We have a CSA drop point and a community garden. Fresh Farms coordinates with other farmers markets and might be something to look, but we haven't had a great history with supporting farmer's markets. Possibly include a question about the farmer's market in the survey. A veggie swap opportunity could be an interesting project. Should consider having seedling swaps again, possibly in conjunction with the Spring Green Fair in 2018. Otylia has talked to be people about healthy eating tours that sometimes works out of Price-Rite and perhaps could be done in conjunction with the Glut.

The energy section might dovetail with the climate action pledge. Empower program incentives and loans to get energy retrofits and pushing this might be an avenue. Have a day to help residents for assistance on filling out the applications. Perhaps the social service coordinator that the city is planning on hiring could be an opportunity to conduct this type of outreach. The city has made some recent improvements including energy efficient lighting at public works and library that could garner points, and the police department has the geothermal unit. Solar meter for the building is something that we should look into. M-NCPPC nature center should be talked to, even though we won't get credit since it is not our building we do need to reduce the entire city's footprint for the climate pledge. The net zero townhomes and the Menkiti could also lead to points. We will need to work out how to get the apartments to retrofit if we do want to reduce our municipal footprint. The apartments do advertise free utilities so retrofitting is in their financial interest. One question is we don't have data to figure out the impact of reducing carbon for the city at large. DC might have an ordinance to help with data collection. Concerning the climate pledge a two focussed on solar on rooftops/coop and building retrofits, we need to keep it simple to start.

The points for the municipal carbon footprint is likely for implementation.

Joe's Movement Emporiums project will lead to points probably. The living well section might be something else for the service coordinator. The Nature Center could also be a way to get more apartment persons involved. Pull up bars, etc, infrastructure adult exercise could be and we should talk to M-NCPPC.

The waste reduction plan the city has been doing might count for points. A lot of Samantha's work could fall into the local economies section.

Buchanan Green Street could count as some implementation on water issues. Perhaps the 31st or 37th park project could count as well. Tree planting could be included too. We are still a Tree City and we have an arbor day proclamation. Pet waste could be little trash bags and trash cans. City ordinance might already exist.

*- Joseph will put together a matrix of the possibilities.*

#### 4. **Mayor's Climate Challenge Actions**

The discussion began with asking do we need to figure out what our current progress is. Maybe we can find a resident that can help us collect the data. Afterwards or in conjunction we need to start getting people to switch to cleaner energy and retrofit. Having a green fair, maybe at the nature center, could be a way to get residents to sign up for green energy or apply to Empower. Miranda has been interested in this idea as well. The end goal of pledge is reductions by 2030. We need to keep whatever actions in mind as being simple at this point.

*- Joseph will email Bill about the idea of data collection.*

#### 5. **37th Street Park**

Joseph ordered the plants for early October delivery from two vendors. Some are 32 plants flats, but most are individual plants. Tremendous has their next planting in the Spring. Maryland Urban Tree Canopy grant the next deadline is in September, but they won't come until spring so we will have to have to events, one in the fall. The events could be timed with clean up green up events. Casey Trees sometimes have leftover trees that can be obtained at a discounted rate. USDA might have a program to obtain money as well. Soil assessment is probably needed and maybe USDA can do it for free.

- Mimi will look at the possibility of obtaining extra trees from Casey Trees.
- Doug will look into the USDA programs for both obtaining grant money and free soil tests.
- Joseph will look into when cleanup green up is.
- MaryLee will apply for the Tremendous grant.

6. **Increasing Participation Follow Up**

2014 survey is a good start. Preferred method of correspondence could be asked. Message board could provide a good avenue for communication between meetings. Tiers of memberships and having some committed positions, such as secretary, etc is something to pursue. Outreach of the business community and the art community could help since our interests often dovetail with theirs. A document of past accomplishments would be a nice thing to have, but in a more readable fashion than the report we give to the city council every year. We should convert the survey to google since the analytics are better and it is free to access the data.

- Doug will send around the message board application - PHPBB.
- Otilyia will work on moving the survey to google from survey monkey.

7. Topics for a Later Date

- a. The Message
- b. Parks
  - i. 31st Street Park
  - ii. Roger's Park
- c. Events
- d. Development Projects
- e. Bandalong Opening
- f. Complete Streets
- g. Curbside Composting
- h. LED for Buildings
- i. Parks Plan - Fee in Lieu Of
- j. Sustainable MD Reauthorization
- k. Mosquito Control
- l. Lead Awareness

Upcoming Events/Dates

Next Meeting: September 11, 2017