

Mount Rainier Green Team Minute
June 11, 2018 7:00-9:00 PM
City Hall

Joseph Jakuta
Sarah Lifsey
Jessica Love
Robert Poisson
Mimi McKindley-Ward
Valerie Woodall

1. **July Green Team Meeting**
2. The July Green Team meeting will be canceled and the next meeting is scheduled for August 13. If a fair number of people cannot attend we will reschedule the meeting.
3. - *Joseph will send an email to the group about the cancelation.*
4. **Whole Cities Foundation**
5. Robert Poisson attended the meeting to inform us of a grant through the Whole Cities Foundation that he sponsored the city for receiving. He was interested in working with the city after having seen the press about the goat project in Roger's Park. Funds of up to \$5,000 can be obtained, but only be used for something related to food for the whole community (e.g., community garden, mobile market, popup market, farmer's market). A grant related deadline is for June 15. The worm needs to be done in conjunction with a 501(c)(3), which neither the Green Team nor the city are. Funds cannot support projects focused on children or food redistribution. Other important grant deadlines are August 1 and September 17. In the long term perhaps a Friends of Mount Rainier Parks or some other organization can be started to take advantage of these types of opportunities. In the short term we will discuss this opportunity with Doug Adams, but otherwise think about this for next year's submission.
6. rpoisson@aol.com - 240-383-0991
7. - *The Green Team members should take a look at the Whole City Foundation website and think about potential opportunities for next year.*
8. **Recycling Carts Update**
 1. **Rollout Status**
 2. Order will take place between June 15 and July 1, essentially as soon as the opt-out period is complete. It will take at least 6 weeks to get carts following placement of the order. We should consider canvassing near the time of the roll out to help smooth that process.
 3. **Canvassing**
 4. Luke, Joseph, and Mimi canvassed on Memorial Day weekend and visited over 200 houses on the south side of Rhode Island. We guessed that about 1/3 of people were home. Some people had heard about the new carts from either The Message of the internet and everyone was happy to hear from us and that we were taking this on. There were a not insignificant number of Spanish households, which were hard for us to communicate with. Joseph mentioned that in the future we could use these opportunities to collect other information (e.g., who has solar panels). For the opt-out we won't have time to canvas any more, but perhaps using apps like NextDoor, Facebook, and yahoo groups will be sufficient to help remind everyone about the opt-outs, which is available online at public works. Two city staff, Alma and Victor, can answer questions in Spanish. Mimi also started work on a document to let people know the basics about the recycling

program, though the document seems to have gotten misplaced electronically and we couldn't look at it.

5. - *Mimi will forward her document to Jessica.*
6. - *MRGT and/or Joseph will sign up for Nextdoor.*
7. - *Joseph will post reminders about the opt-out process on FaceBook, etc.*

8. **Reusing Cans**

9. Valerie put together a list of ways to reuse your old can. We should have people submit information as to how they reused their old can and have a competition with pictures of creative uses. We can also use the flier as part of the canvassing action. We will focus the July Green Team Message section on this as well with an abridged version. We will put in some unclaimed bit.ly links that will be sent to the contest and informational sheet.
10. - *Valerie will work on making updates and Joseph will get the Message submission through.*

9. **Workgroups**

1. **Solar Workgroup**

2. The Solar Workgroup met in April and discussed several topics. The Solar Symposium has morphed into more of a solar happy hour to try to get better turnout and make for a better experience. Mimi expressed that people would still be willing to attend an informational meeting and that the lack of attendance at the informational sessions at the Greening Fair shouldn't be an indicator. The workgroup also discussed the idea of developing solar #GREENisLIFE videos with testimonials from residents and an explainer to be given by former councilmember Bill Updike. The group also looked at ways to expand both community solar and solar coops buying in town. The workgroup sent a list of properties to groundswell to analyze for solar potential. They said that all of the properties are good, but will provide more details. The next step is to start to reach out to the owners (PG Schools, PG County, St. James Church, and whoever owns the Gals Studios). The group also reached out on solar listserves to inquire about participating in upcoming bulk solar purchases. We also need to find a new workgroup lead since Armando has moved to Hyattsville.
3. - *Mimi will compile a list of homes with solar to figure out who to seek testimonials from.*
4. - *Once the data returned Mimi will reach out to St James.*
5. - *Joseph will reach out to Stephen and others to find a new workgroup leader.*

6. **Mosquito Workgroup**

7. Met with Liz in Brentwood. For Brentwood Day and there is a video being processed on alternative control. Liz had a lead that Takoma Park was using a test of ovitraps and is trying to find out what the outcomes are. There are DIY techniques to make ovitraps and Takoma Park subsidized them. Talked about different ways to disseminate information. Will meet up later this month. Will also have an entry for the Message for next month's issue. Sarah is also looking at ways to obtain free Mosquito Dunks to place in standing water such as bird baths.

10. **Stormwater Issues**

1. **Draft Stormwater Plan - Tabled**

2. **Menkiti Pavement Follow Up**

3. Several minor edits were discussed on the draft that MaryLee provided to the committee.
4. - *Joseph will make the edits, make sure MaryLee is accepting of the edits, and submit the letter to the council.*
5. **Arundel Letter Follow Up**
6. Joseph began working on a letter following up with our continued concerns about the green street project, but discovered that the levee project and thus the green street

project was put on hold and wanted to regroup before finishing the letter. One person involved in biking issues in the area suggested that joint letters be developed among the variety of these communities to call for improvements to all of the projects. The decision was to continue on writing the existing letter though since it will be transmitted to a different organization than the greater biking concern letter would.

11. Events

1. **6/16 Public Works - E-Waste Drop-off/Stryofoam Drop-off**
2. E-waste drop off is from 9 AM - 1 PM at Public Works. The Green Team will be sponsoring polystyrene dropoff at the same time. We will be responsible for taking it to Crofton. Will take a look at a notice from Sustainable Maryland about a polystyrene drop point that could be available regularly.
3. - *Joseph will post on Facebook, listserve, etc about drop-off.*
4. **The Great Rain Barrel Event**
5. - *Jessica will reach out to Deborah concerning the event, which we are shooting to hold in the end of summer.*
6. **Possible Summer Litter Event**
7. We discussed having litter pickups occur on a more regular schedule, possibly three a year. People liked the idea of having more contest elements. We will shoot for having another event on September 15-16. In the long term perhaps the schedule for events can become February, May (right before Mount Rainier Day), and September.

12. Outreach

1. **The Message – Discussed Earlier**
2. **#GreenIsLife Videos**
3. Videos are progressing and several should be filmed later this month.

13. Summer Youth Program

14. Neither Jessica nor Joseph have heard any updates on this, but it should be starting soon.

15. Sustainable Maryland - Draft Application

16. The draft application should be complete by the end of the week.

17. Topics for a Later Date

1. **Plastics Reduction**
2. **Parks - 31st Street Park, Rogers Park**
3. **Green Development Fund**
4. **Development Projects**
5. **LED for Buildings**
6. **Parks Plan - Fee in Lieu Of**
7. **Lead Awareness**