

Mount Rainier Green Team Minutes
September 10, 2018 7:00-9:00 PM
City Hall

Joseph Jakuta
Councilmember Chesek
Sarah Lifsey
Rocio Latorre
Doug Adams
Kevin McNeill

1. Recycling Carts Update

Recycling and trash cans will come the week of September 24 and the 28th. There will now be no delay. They will have trucks with lifts, but not the new trucks. Instructions on the start of the new program will be taped to the new carts. Tomorrow night there is a community conversation on recycling and trash and we will copy the rules and the do's and don'ts. Usually Darr'ell puts something out on the website.

- *Joseph will put something on Facebook, Nextdoor and our Website hopefully after Darr'ell posts about the event.*

- *Joseph will send Rocio the recycling document for other items.*

- *Rocio will print documents for tomorrow.*

- *Rocio will ask about the printing up a website for the do's and don't.*

- *See if Valerie can repromote her Message article the week of September 24, 2018.*

2. Stormwater Management Plan

The City has put in for grant for bioretention in front of Joe's Movement Emporium. There is also discussion of a \$20k stormwater management map, which would include sensors to detect water flow. Adam Ortiz has been contacted to see if we can calculate baseline stormwater so areas can be prioritized in grant applications with the \$20k. Trying to find partners will be helpful, Luke cited St James since they back up towards an alley with stormwater issues and there is funding for faith based programs. No firm has been talked to about the study, but in the end a public RFP process will not be necessary. Doug suggested that the RFP could be more encompassing and Luke is seeking feedback from the County on that subject.

- *Luke will work with Mimi and Doug to ask St. James about being a partner, and also ask about solar with them as well.*

3. Bandalong

Kevin, who is running the Joe's Stream Team, is helping to manage the clean up of the bandalong which is the first of its type in Maryland and one of five or so in the US. It held up well in the recent storms. Kevin is looking at increasing the level of partnership with all of the groups in the area.

- *Kevin will also send around some information concerning the bandalong.*

4. Arundel Green Street

Concerning the levee project, it is on hold because there was a challenge to the RFP that it was issued illegally. Luke suggests that the Green Team complete the letter and he will see if we should send it or the council should. Concerning the plan the bioretention addition is nice and we should prod them to do one at 32nd Street as well at the bump outs. It would fit in with the stormwater plan and we could partner on that. We are also excited about the addition of the speed table.

- *Joseph will clean up the draft letter and send around.*

5. Events

a. 9/11 - City Council: Recycling and Trash Panel

There will be a panel tomorrow evening at City Hall about trash and recycling, including information and questions about the new carts. There has not been a lot of publication of the event.

- *Everyone should watch or attend the panel at City Hall and spread the word that it is occurring.*

b. 9/15 - Public Works - E-Waste Drop-off/Stryofoam Drop-off/The Great Rain Barrel Event

The Great Rain Barrel Event is being held in conjunction with e-waste and polystyrene drop-off on Saturday 9/15. As of now 92 rain barrels have been sold. For people that cannot attend on Saturday, the city can hold barrels up to the 20th and they can be picked up between 9 and 5. Rocio and Leroy will be there at 9:00 to help unload. Kevin and possibly one of the crew people from the Stream Team can come to help unload and Valerie might be able to help to and we will double check.

- *Joseph will send out reminders that nders on facebook and nextdoor about e-waste and styrofoam drop-off and Rocio will send out reminders as well.*

c. 9/29 - September Clean Sweep Litter Pick-up Event

The event will be from 9-12 on 9/29 with meeting at City Hall. Sarah put together a flier for the Fall Clean Sweep Litter Pickup Event. Joseph posted about the event with PG County Schools and we have gotten a good bit of interest from students needing Service Learning Hours. The consensus is that we need a waiver for parents to sign for the event. We also have obtained four 1-class passes to Joe's as a giveaway for randomly selected participants. Concerning families attending we will allow one entry per family. We will enter data on the trash collected into LitterTrak.

- *Luke will email the the city attorney to prepare a waiver.*

- *Joseph will email Kevin information on how to contact LitterTrak.*

d. 10/18 - Solar Party

We will hold an event on 10/18 at Joe's Movement Emporium. We already have an installer and Neighborhood Sun (Community Solar) lined up and we are still working on MD Sun (Solar Coop) and music. Luke signed up for Neighborhood Sun and can provide information on the process. The question was raised as to whether renters should be able sign up as long as they pay their bills with Pepco directly. We also discussed having adult beverages and Atlas Brewery might be a good choice since they are solar powered. We will have other refreshments as well. Joseph suggested that we have postcards to fill out for attendees where they would write how they are going solar on them and then we would mail them later as a reminder of the commitment.

- *Joseph will find someone to design the postcards and call MD SUN.*

- *Luke will arrange to get a Keg.*

- *We will advertise the event in the Message, Facebook, and Next Door.*

6. Outreach

a. Website

We now have a website. Joseph discussed the different paid options that are available and the agreement was that the \$4/month option made the most sense, the \$8/month provided no added benefit, and the \$25/month option would be nice to have, but was too expensive. Right now we should review the site and provide feedback on improvements and begin to really publicize it after next month's meeting.

- *Joseph will get the upgraded site and pick a domain name.*

- *Joseph will email the entire group to get feedback.*

b. The Message

We have a schedule for upcoming Message articles - October: Solar Party and Solar ABCs, November: Weatherization, and December/January: Green Holidays.

c. #GreenIsLife Videos

3 scheduled for Saturday, Corn Coop (10), Mosquitos (9), and Solar Testimonials (11). City Hall could be be a venue given the . Could we do the Nature Center as a backup? We will check in later in the week. Doug will text Luke about getting in either at 9 or 11 if needed due to weather. Doug is trying to get music to use for background from a local artist. As far as posting the videos we have a YouTube channel, and have been putting it on the Green Team Facebook, etc. We will also provide the videos to MRTV to broadcast.

7. Workgroups

a. Solar Workgroup

Covered under previous topics.

b. Mosquito Workgroup

Covered under previous topics.

c. Art Workgroup

One person responded to the call for members, but he could not make it to the meeting and Joseph has not had time to sit down and discuss more with him.

8. Sustainable Maryland

The application is nearly ready for submission. Two items are pending, but will be taken care of soon.

9. County Park Bike Plan - Public Session 9/20

If people are interested in attending a public session on 9/20, likely in Upper Marlboro to discuss the park plan that should consider.

- Joseph will send more information when he finds it.

10. Compost Pickup

To start to prepare for next budget season we should have. Questions were raised about how would the program work? There are programs you can sign up for and someone picks up your compost and you get composted dirt in return (Veteran Compost and Compost Crew). There is a pilot composting pick up program with the County. Another possibility is to partner with Takoma Park. Janet at College Park SmartLeaf can possibly help answer questions about their work, but they collect soft yard waste only. Perhaps we can think about the private companies as a pilot program after we talk to Mr. Kamali.

- Rocio will talk to Mr. Kamali about how he would like to approach working with us to move this forward.

11. Community Needs Assessment Survey

Tabled.

12. Topics for a Later Date

- a. Plastics Reduction
- b. Economic Development Fund
- c. Parks - 31st Street Park, Rogers Park
- d. 37th Street Clean Up - Replanting
- e. Green Development Fund
- f. Development Projects
- g. LED for Buildings
- h. Parks Plan - Fee in Lieu Of
- i. Lead Awareness