

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

Sarah Lifsey
Councilmember Chesek
Joseph Jakuta
Stephen "Jackson" Leas

1. Events

a. Spring Greening Fair - Tabled

2. Native Planting

Idea to create a native planting greenway between Barnard Hill Park and Brentwood. Related to the event could be a native plant tour of people's house. Jodi Beder might be willing to give a tour. Gabe Popkin of the Tree Commission would be willing to partner with us on an event. Showing how to swap out nonnative cookie cutter plants with natives might be a good idea. Certified native habitat program could provide incentives or ideas.

3. Grants

a. CB Trust Mini-Grant

Valerie was working on a grant application for this, possibly involving the bandalong as an educational activity.

- Sarah will follow up with Valerie on the status of the grant application draft.

b. CIG

Councilmember Shah is applying for this grant with Little Friends for Peace for a meditative space and a labyrinth made of a to-be-determine mosaic material. There will be signage for the historic well. There will be lighting and a lack of seating. Trees that have been planted will not be removed. Councilmember Shah is interested in getting feedback for the grant before the event if possible, but would seek out deeper feedback later. Including other neighbor groups in the application could add to the strength. For next year (2019) the Green Team may want to consider applying for this grant for a watershed related project.

- Councilmember Shah will send around a powerpoint for the event. Sarah will review the prepare a draft letter of support.

c. PG Litter Reduction and Citizen Engagement Mini Grant Program

Valerie suggested that the Stream Team should partner to apply for this to stencil some of our storm drains. Storm drains near Arundel and Spring Park are stenciled and the ones near Joe's has been, but those stenciling are faded. The question was raised as to who "owns" or has jurisdiction over the concrete over the sewer drains. We can either look to get Public Works to submit the grant or the Stream Team could and partner with the city. Applicants will have to coordinate with DoE on locations and design. The Green Team will try to get this on the agenda for the January work session to get council buy-in.

- Sarah will follow up with Valerie and Kevin on putting together the application.

4. Outreach

a. The Message

We have a February Message written so we have a month to finalize the text (due 1/11/19). Kevin said he will write up a Message about the Stream Team litter pledge. April likely will take on the topic of the Spring Greening Fair.

- Joseph will review the February issue to make sure nothing was missed

- Joseph will write up the March issue on the topic of Lead

b. #GreenIsLife Videos

Doug just got in touch with us about shooting #GreenIsLife. A winterizing home video would be a great topic if we knew someone that was an expert, possibly the grant runner or someone who is a weatherization expert. Fred (next to the edible forest) recently got the grant. Another option is to have a testimonial. We could also feature Public Works non-salt de-icing substance and explain the benefits. Joseph did the research for that and can do that video. Ancestral Knowledge could be another group since they are

based here. Sarah is going to take one of their classes to find out more. Joseph brought up the question as to how effective the corn coop video was.

- *Joseph will reach out to the coop to see how the video worked.*

- *Sarah will reach out to Rosio about potentially shooting a video on the de-icer at Public Works.*

c. Social Media - Tabled

5. Waste Reduction

a. Cassette Tape Recycling

Joseph was interested in doing a Cassette Tape/VHS/Film recycling drive. Only materials shipped via media mail will be taken. Joseph will call the company to get a drop box and host it at his house. The Green Team will pay for the shipping once the event.

b. Styrofoam E-Waste Event

Joseph cannot pick up the styrofoam on the 15th so we need to look into how to get styrofoam collected and to the recycling center. We have not promoted the drop-off so probably will not get nearly the same level of waste.

- *Councilmember Chesek will reach out to Mr Kamali and have him hold any styrofoam and Joseph will get it later.*

c. Compost Pickup

Started to discuss this and Public Works wanted to see how the County's pilot project has been going. Focus on reaching out to Rocio to see if there has been research into how the County is doing it. Some ideas for compost disposal are the County pilot facility, Takoma Park's facility, or private companies. Julia Grisar might be a good person to enlist in any Green Team efforts.

- *Sarah will discuss how this has progressed.*

- *Councilmember Chesek will reach out to Julia*

d. Recycling Carts Update

Councilmember Chesek has heard good things about the roll out and the vendors and public works did an excellent job. Noone has participated in the contest for reusing the trash cans.

e. Kaywood Gardens Recycling

Kaywood does not appear to recycling and we will continue to look into this.

6. Arundel Green Street

The letter has been signed by the Council and delivered it to the County.

- *Councilmember Chesek will follow up with DoE about the Arundel letter.*

7. Rain Check Rebates Follow-up

The county is going to get back to Valerie about the numbers for rain check rebate application.

8. Community Needs Assessment Survey

A Sustainable Maryland item that is about asking residents about their environmental needs.

Rocio had expressed interest in heading this up.

- *Sarah will follow up with Rocio about this.*

9. Solar Party Recap

Four people signed up for Neighborhood Sun from the event directly. Solar Coop has not kept track of how many people specifically came, but three people heard about it from the Green Team in some way.

10. December Work Session - December 18th

Councilmember Chesek will be presenting on how to think more holistically about our parks.

There would be \$25,000 grand per park. Joseph suggested adding Richardson park to the list since it is part of Mount Rainier and Gazebo Park since it has the potential to be a good resource for the city.

11. Topics for a Later Date

a. Workgroups

b. Solar Workgroup

c. Mosquito Workgroup

d. Art Workgroup

e. Plastics Reduction

- f. Economic Development Fund
- g. Parks - 31st Street Park, Rogers Park
- h. Green Development Fund
- i. Development Projects
- j. LED for Buildings
- k. Parks Plan - Fee in Lieu Of
- l. Lead Awareness

Upcoming Events/Dates

Next Meeting: January 14, 2019