

AGENDA FOR THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL  
SUSTAINABILITY MEETING AND GREEN TEAM MEETING

Tuesday, March 24, 2015 - 7:30 pm – Community Center

Staff liaison: Luisa Robles. Council liaison: Konrad Herling.

Members present: Matt Dirksen, John Lippert, Maggie Cahalan, Jeffphine Dawson, Josh Hamlin, Eva Fallon, Kathleen Shaw, Kehinde Odebo (7:50).

Green Team: Jeannie Iacovazzi, Susan Barnett

Excused absences: Michael Hartman, Kim Knox, Steve Skolnik, John Berard.

Visitors: Dominique Johnston, Jane Young, Erin Josephitis

**Green Team and Green ACES Meeting**

Call to order: 7:35

1. The Code of Conduct for Advisory Boards and Committee members was signed by those who did not sign it at the previous meeting.
2. Solar Circle efforts update. SMC – Energy/Greenhouse Gas – Innovative Demonstration Project. John gave the group an update on the writing of the Solar Memo and our efforts to piggy-back on Montgomery County's Contract with Solar City. Solar City is recommending ground mounts, and they want the City to install an array of at least 700 kW. If this does not work out the Solar Circle still wants to pursue other options.
3. Greening the Labor Day Festival. How to best include the Circus Kids so they educate the public at the same time as entertaining? Jane asked the group's opinion on ideas to promote recycling and to include the Circus Kids. Suggestions: Juggling recyclable items. Or make juggling props of paper mache and juggle those. Wear a poster with the actual items glued to a surface for people to see. (Although this was done one year with limited success).

Are we getting better with recycling at the Festival? Anecdotally we think yes. When Green ACES members went around dumpster-diving there seemed to be less contamination last year than previous years; and some members mentioned that people in general seem to be more aware of what is recyclable.

Also, other parts of Greenbelt don't really recycle, so that segment of the population might not be aware of recycling. On a related note, the group suggested a petition to the County Council to encourage them to enforce recycling at apartment buildings (especially Franklin Park). A petition can be circulated during Earth Day or Greenman Festival or Festival of Spring? Also take it to Franklin Park management and Greenbelt City Council.

4. Earth Day/Potomac River Watershed Clean-up - April 18 (10 am – 1 pm). Organized by the Alice Ferguson Foundation, Green ACES and Public Works. Maggie and Kathleen are heading this effort. Luisa will provide the materials through the AFF. Erin has a

group of 11 volunteers, Luisa and Erin will do the usual promoting in the News Review, fliers, etc. Advertise at the Middle School and High School.

Petition to recycle at Franklin Park: to have recycling co-located with the trash; and for now, to share where the lima-green bins are located and promote with the residents.

Kathleen will contact the office and ask about trash and recycling. Ask Franklin Park to include recycling locations in their newsletter. Ask Carolina about Middle school.

5. Letter to GHI from the Stream sub-group update. Green Team still waiting on City management. The group can address the issue directly with GHI but as members of the individual watershed groups. Or the Green Team can address City Council directly. Luisa said she will ask Jim Sterling again to see if he had talked to Mike M. about a procedure for the Green Team to conduct this type of business.
6. Zero Waste Circle. Helping make Zero Waste Events, the next one is the Greenman Festival. The group brainstormed ideas: Action Center. Compost. Work with food vendors. Table with information w/o creating waste. Skit with a song about sustainability. Maggie recommended singing the Pete Seeger song: <http://artists.letsingit.com/pete-seeger-lyrics-if-it-cant-be-reduced-sgbsz84#axzz3VztUPm4r> but “Greenbeltified”. Luisa volunteered to put something together with this song, perhaps at the start of the children’s parade as the “Green Fairy”.

The Zero Waste Circle will meet at 1:00 pm this Sunday, March 29, 2015 at the Community Center.

Other ideas: The film *Rising to Zero* – San Francisco effort to get to zero waste – could be shown at the festival. *The Story of Stuff*. Reel and Meal: *Divide and Concord* (town in MA that banned single serve plastic bottle water - they passed this legislation).

The group talked about the New Deal Café (NDC) and the expanded polystyrene (Styrofoam) issue. The county is introducing a Styrofoam ban for carry out – all service ware to be compostable or recyclable. Montgomery County and the District of Columbia already have those bans (phased in for 2016). Howard County is also looking at it, and Baltimore City. NCY just passed it...

Coal tar sealants on roads bill is in the works too. Call Turner. Josh will send info on this so we can be proactive.

For future action, the group talked about a Styrofoam-free Roosevelt Center; and for businesses to have a sustainability section on their web pages, letting people know of the good green things they are doing, such as wind power, recycling, composting. Susan wants to start this movement.

Theme of the Greenman Festival is water. Encourage people to bring their water bottles.

7. We have partnered with Doug Alexander from Cheverly and [backyardcomposting.org](http://backyardcomposting.org). The City will house 20 Enviroworld compost bins that can be sold to the public for \$30. (<http://enviroworld.ca/environmental-products/freegarden-earth>). Maggie suggested

raffling one bin at the Greenman Festival and promoting backyard composting. Konrad recommends contacting Malia Murray for a PSA. The group asked about small bins for inside the kitchen. Maggie said she could raffle one of those too.

8. VMC projects. Erin Josephitis shared about projects she has been working on, or upcoming.
  - a) Arbor Day – Saturday, March 28 at Buddy Attick Park 10:00 am, - 1:00 pm (plantings) and from 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm (tree tour).
  - b) Composting at the Three Sisters Garden at the Community Center. Erin will check with the Senior Lunches to make sure they are making progress with composting.
  - c) GIS data gathering – intern from UMD, memorial benches and trees. App Leaf Snap to identify trees from leaves. And Audubon Trees.
  - d) Caging of trees and liberation from English Ivy
  - e) Greenman Festival planning meeting – Sunday March 29 at 4:00 pm at NDC. Bake sale, and yard sale to generate funds for the festival. Jeannie will send an email with the dates.
  - f) April 4 work days at all Three Sisters Gardens.  
March 8 at Schrom hills -- good turnout for the Three Sisters Garden

9. Other.

Next round of signing up for wind from Groundswell. Greenbelt Wind Group. 10% less if we band together to get wind. We are in the “show interest” period. Jane will send an email so she can put our names down for the interest. Susan commented that wind energy uses no water in the generation of the energy.

Repair Café this Saturday at Makers Space 10 am to 5 pm. Electronics, sewing machines, dishwashers? Small appliances. Fabrics, mending repairs, hemming. Bicycles.

Poster presentation on April 17 by Roosevelt High School students from Coit Hendly’s class where students conducted water monitoring on Greenbelt streams.

Adjournment: Jeannie/Susan 9:02 pm