

NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, May 26, 2022 AT 7:00 P.M. in court room

**VILLAGE OF RIDGEFIELD PARK
MINUTES OF THE GREEN TEAM
April 21, 2022**

Leslie Olson called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m., it having been duly noted that this meeting is being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., notice of which was published in The Record and sent to the Star Ledger as well as posted on the Village bulletin board. Members present were: Veronica Leone, Dennise Santana, Guillermo Lopez-Acosta, Janet Malool, Nicole Terrarosa, Leslie Olson, Absent: Diane Mancini, Berlinda Rodriguez, Harry Menta, Ex Officio Members. Excused: Dyan Thiemann, Daniele Fede, Christopher Gibbons, Janet Harris, Rita Raftery, Daniel Raftery Gloria Rivera. No guests present.

The minutes of the March 24, 2022, were approved on a motion by Guillermo Lopez-Acosta and seconded by Janet Malool. All were in favor of the motion.

Payment of bills: None this month.

Hearing of Citizens: None present.

Correspondence: None

Reports:

Financial: Nothing new to report.

Recycling – Plastic Bags & EPS: Veronica Leone continues to pick up Marlboro House plastic bags. All other plastic recycling collection continues regularly. Mark and Leslie Olson handle the EPS

Public Arts Master Plan: The Planning Board voted on the Village's Master Plan on April 4. It should contain a Public Arts Element. Leslie Olson to confirm the vote took place and obtain a copy of the minutes.

Bergen Hub: Veronica said their topic continues to be EPS recycling events in the participating towns. She also straightened out her access to the Hub's meeting notifications and other matters. We sent the April 23 flyer for posting at the Hub.

April 23 Declutter Event: Team members are asked to arrive prior to 9am for setup. Various team members will bring cleaning supplies. Leslie Olson confirmed there will be five high school students participating with the team. We will conduct a survey of attendees to find out how they found out about the event and will give them a handout of upcoming events for the rest of April and May. Our collection will be setup past the paper shredding truck. There will be a truck for the Second Chance Toys, a separate container for the rigid plastic recycling, two tables set up for Call2Recycle battery collection boxes and box of cereal donation for the Food Pantry. Toys are to be checked for completeness and wiped down if needed. Batteries are to be bagged and the 9Volt and 6Volt batteries must be taped. Nicole has the cleanup organized and set.

Seventh Grade Civics Class: Recycling containers requested are in and stored at DPW. Leslie Olson will coordinate with Mr. Savino for drop off at the school. Waiting to hear back from Mr. Savino's class regarding the offer of the Green Team to purchase a Terracycle Zero Waste box for their recycling initiative. Need to know which one they want.

Sustainable Jersey: There are 145 points that have expired on 12/31/21. Updates on those actions:

Environmental Commission – Barbara DeLuca, Steve Quinn - Done

Green Team – Leslie Olson - Done

Green Business Recognition Program – Under construction Veronica completed work on the form and it is uploaded. Leslie Olson has two new applications: Betsy's Bagels and Brownie Cafe to submit for approval by the team.

Community Outreach and Education – Nicole Terrarosa/Leslie & Veronica Partners – 3 projects: Monarch Pledge, Clean-Up Day, April 23rd Declutter Flyers, Bee Grant with library – under construction

Innovative Community Project 1: Welcome Packet – Dennise Santana – under construction

Emergency Communications Planning – Janet Malool – under construction

Vulnerable Populations Identification for Emergencies – Janet Malool – under construction
Energy Tracking and Management – Leslie Olson, reports are requested from PSEG
Community Garden – Janet Malool – under construction
Tree Maintenance Program – Done
Recycled Paper – Done
Prescription Drug & Safety – Done

Extreme Temperature Event Plan – Leslie is working on trying to write up a plan so the action can be submitted.
Green Your Green Fair – needs to be done after the Green Fairs
Support Local Businesses – Janet Malool and Nicole Terrarosa will look at this action.
Buy Fresh Buy Local – Janet Malool and Nicole Terrarosa will look at this action.

No change at this time. There is a new local health assessment action that Leslie and Barbara are working on. They will get together to do a one-page memo to Commissioner Gerken to explain what is expected from the Board of Health for this action.

New Business:

Calendar: There are several upcoming events that members should take note of.

April 30 – Arbor Day Ceremony April 30 – 5th Anniversary of the Community Garden – will be giving out seed packets
 April 30 – DEA Prescription Drug Takeback at the Police Department 10am-2pm

May 5 – Hook & Ladder Company Truck #1 Blood Drive 2pm-8pm Firehouse at Euclid and Brewster Avenues
 May 21 – Earth Day 10am – 5pm Riverfront Park – 24 Industrial Avenue (behind DPW)

Next month, the GT will discuss Buy Fresh Buy Local campaign, signing up more businesses for Green Business Program, Health Fair and September 24 Swap & Shop/Green Fair, next group of Community Outreach articles for Fall newsletter.

The GT should find out if the newsletter is printed on recycled paper.

A motion was made by Guillermo Lopez-Acosta and seconded by Janet Malool to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. All were in favor of the motion.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 26, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in the court room.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara DeLuca
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cc: Commissioner Mark Olson