

NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2018 AT 7:00 P.M.

**VILLAGE OF RIDGEFIELD PARK
MINUTES OF THE GREEN TEAM
November 30, 2017**

Chairman Mark Olson called the meeting to order at 7:00 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: Peggy Conversano, Guillermo Lopez-Acosta, Leslie Olson, Mark Olson, Linda Quinn, Harry Menta, Janet Malool, Asai Maschang, Barbara Wilke. Not Present: Excused – Gloria Rivera, Carolina Espin, Joseph D'Angeli (leave of absence), Katelyn McGirk, Flo Muller. Absent – James Donohue. Ex Officio Members absent. Commissioner Anlian arrived at 7:42 p.m. Guest: Danielle Fede from Bogota.

A motion was made by Leslie Olson and seconded by Guillermo Lopez-Acosta approving the minutes of the September 28, 2017, meeting. All were in favor of the motion. There was no official meeting in October as there was no quorum.

Approval of bills: None at this time.

Hearing of Citizens: None present at this time.

Correspondence: Email dated October 10, 2017, from Sustainable Jersey congratulating GT on achieving Bronze Certification.

Reports:

Financial: No bills to be paid this month. \$1,000 will be encumbered for expenses and the rest will go to the sculpture garden.

Creative Team: The Creative Team held a concert on October 21 at the Presbyterian Church. It was a great concert and the sound was amazing.

Community Garden: The beds are being cleared now for winter. Some seeds have been planted in public beds. Committees are ready to focus. Starting in January 2018, they will be meeting monthly. Applications are now being taken for next year. Applications were handed out at their Halloween table and at the Fishing Derby as well as posting them on the RP Mom's Facebook page.

Rain Garden: Nothing new to report.

Old Business:

Sustainable Jersey: Although the Village received Bronze Certification, it must recertify in three years. There are 85 points expiring at the end of the year. 85 points expire in 2018. Harry Menta will work on some publicity about the Bronze Certification.

Creative Team: Mark and Leslie Olson spoke with Father Larry and Sally Zeuner about doing a concert series next winter. They all seem very positive about this and want them to happen in 2018. They would happen at the OCM Church and Guillermo's church. The group all feel that this will get people to go to each other's churches. Father Larry asked that the GT help promote their concert this year. St. Francis will be holding its annual Christmas Concert on Friday, December 15 at 7:30 pm. The Creative Team wants to sponsor another concert in the spring. Danielle Fede said to send the info to the Bogota Blog. Several members took the flyers to post around town. Jin Ah Jong said she would have some time this weekend to post them.

Janet Malool said she would like to do something like done in the Haverstraw River Arts <http://haverstrawriverarts.org/>. She would like to see something like this done at McGowan Park in the future. It could include any type of music and/or arts. Another idea the CT was thinking about was an art crawl where people would get a map and visit various artists at work in town.

Community Gardens: Christopher Hurtado wants to be a part of the Community Gardens but is moving out of town to save money to hopefully buy a house. They would like to allow him to still continue working with the garden as he has a lot of knowledge and is willing to put in the hours volunteering with the gardens.

A discussion was held on minor changes to the Community Garden Rules. The hours required under work commitment will be changed from 18 to 24 hours. A good portion of these hours can be met just by attending meeting so it was decided to change the commitment to 24 hours to make sure all necessary work gets done. There are 54 beds at McGowan Park and 23 at Fellowship. Fellowship Park fills up first, there are 4 or 5 applications already submitted. McGowan Park has about half available. There is a rule that seven days after a hard frost, the gardener must clear the plot.

A motion was made by Mark Olson and seconded by Harry Menta that with the changes discussed tonight increasing the work hours from 18 to 24 hours, that the GT ratify these rules for the Community Garden. All were in favor of the motion.

Website: Harry Menta asked if it was possible to put a link on each page to the other website (GT & EC). He also said that anything that has passed needs to come down. Photos and a recap of the event can be added to the website. John Anlian will send pictures he took at the fishing derby. Harry will have a draft of the bat house installation at the church for next week. Harry also suggested doing a recap of what happened this year at the Community Garden.

New Business:

Reappointment of GT members:

Regular Members:

Carolina Espin Term expires 2020
Janet Malool filling Peggy Conversano Term expires 2019
Harry Menta filling Joe D'Angeli Term expires 2019
Linda Quinn Term expires 2020

Alternate Members:

Katelyn McGirk Alt. #1 filling Linda Quinn Term expires 2018
Jin Ah Jong Alt #2 filling Harry Menta Term expires 2020

Associates: All expire 2018

Peggy Conversano
Joseph D'Angeli
Guillermo Lopez-Acosta
Christopher Hurtado
Asai Maschang
Florence Muller
Gloria Rivera
Barbara Wilke
Bogota EC Members to also be added

A letter will be sent to the members confirming their change in membership.

Earth Day/Green Fair: This will be discussed later at the EC meeting. May 19 is the suggested date.

July 4: For the January meeting, members should think about how to participate in the July 4th parade. It could be a float with the EC or simply marching in the parade. Members should be ready to share their thoughts at the January meeting.

Sustainable Jersey: Mark Olson has scheduled a meeting with the Village Department Heads on Thursday, December 7 to discuss working toward a Silver Certification. The GT will need everyone working toward that goal to achieve it. The GT is 155 points away from a Silver Certification. Thirty points were turned in to be reviewed so the total should be 225 points before the push toward Silver. There are several things the Village governing body can do to add to these points. 1) support the arts 2) add Electric Vehicle Charging stations – 30 points just for that. These are just a couple of examples of the work that needs to be done. Daniele Fede said that utility tracking is another task the GT could add. She said she was able to accomplish this for Bogota by contacting PE&G.

Mark has also scheduled to meet with the Board of Commissioners at the December 7 caucus meeting to speak to them so they understand how important the cooperation of everyone is to achieve the Silver Certification. They will need to enact a few ordinances to complete certain tasks.

2018 Meeting Dates and Times:

Meeting times for 2018 have changed to 7:30 p.m. or immediately following the EC meeting.

**JANUARY 25
FEBRUARY 22
MARCH 22
APRIL 26
MAY 24
JUNE 28**

**JULY 26 (IF NECESSARY)
AUGUST 23 (IF NECESSARY)
SEPTEMBER 27
OCTOBER 25
NOVEMBER 29 (FIFTH THURSDAY)
DECEMBER – no meeting**

Creative Team – Daniele Fede said she really thinks that Bogota and RP should work together on these activities to help each other gain points. She thinks it would be a good idea for both towns to have some Associate members on each team. Mark agreed this partnership would be beneficial to all.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Peggy Conversano and seconded by Mark Olson adjourning the meeting at 8:18 p.m. All were in favor of this motion.

The next regular meeting will be January 25, 2018, beginning at 7:30 p.m. or immediately following the EC meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara DeLuca