

**NEXT MEETING: GREEN TEAM MEETING: THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2017, AT 7:00 P.M.**  
**MASTER GARDENER TO SPEAK ON APRIL 27, 2017, AT 7:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES OF THE GREEN TEAM**  
**April 19, 2017**

Chairman Mark Olson called the meeting to order at 7:01 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: Guillermo Lopez-Acosta, Harry Menta (arrived late), Leslie Olson, Mark Olson, Linda Quinn, Janet Malool and Gloria Rivera (arrived late). Not Present: Peggy Conversano (excused), Joseph D'Angeli (excused), James Donohue (excused), Florence Muller (absent). Steve Quinn and Jinah Jong were also present for the meeting.

A motion was made by Leslie Olson and seconded by Mark Olson to approve the minutes of the March 23, 2017, meeting. All were in favor of the motion.

**Approval of bills:** Funds were encumbered in 2016 by the Environmental Commission, to get the Green Team going. That money has all been spent. The GT budget for 2017 is \$29,000.00. The GT had put in for \$37,000.00. As far as the Community Garden, Mark Olson put in for expenses totaling about \$2,500.00 so far. The Community Garden is not quite done. At least about \$3,000.00 will be spent because the GT still needs to buy tool sheds. Mark Olson made a motion, which was seconded by Guillermo Lopez-Acosta, that \$4,000.00 be encumbered to various vendors for expenses for building for the Community Gardens. All were in favor of the motion.

**Hearing of Citizens:** No one spoke.

**Correspondence:** None received at this time.

**Old Business:**

**Community Garden –** Janet Malool gave a quick update on Fellowship Garden as of April 19. There are 16 planting beds measuring 4 x 8. They have been filled with soil and temporary fencing is surrounding the garden and an arbor with a gate serves as the entry. There is a lock on the arbor. One additional bed will be used as herb garden to be shared by the gardeners within the fenced in area. One additional plot on the outside area will be an herb garden to be shared by the Village residents. The Community Garden sign is hanging on the back fence by the tennis court.

Two rings of trapezoidal beds are in and filled with soil. Nine are on the inner circle and eighteen on the outer circle. There are also two rectangular beds for herbs to be shared with the Village residents. There will be no fencing at this location and an entry arbor is in place and so are two small arbors to support grapevines as they grow. Multiple groupings of fruit trees have been planted along the perimeter of the property. One beehouse is in place and the garden sign will be in place by Saturday. All plots will be numbered to make assigning plots easier. There have been several work sessions with numerous people helping. There are currently a total of 21 plots assigned to 25 gardeners plus Lincoln School students and two chaperones. There are seven more people who have helped out but haven't officially filled out applications. The plan is to store garden equipment at each site. The gardeners are also planning on making picnic tables and benches. One will be placed at Fellowship within the garden and two will be placed at McGowan. The DPW is in the process of learning access points to water at each location.

A gardener's meeting was held on Monday night. Discussion included the work still remaining to be done at both locations and what might be included in the rules as well as ways to communicate as a garden group and some thoughts about questions the gardeners might want to ask Robyn Lowenthal next week when she comes in to speak to the GT. There were two new people at the meeting that night so that was good. Official opening of the gardens will take place on Saturday, April 22, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. at McGowan and 10:30 at Fellowship Park. They will try to get word out to get people down for both. There

are two Master Gardeners coming to speak to gardeners and the community next Thursday, April 27, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. The plan is to basically have the gardeners wait until April 29, after the group has met with Robyn to start planting. They are hoping to start some type of year-to-year first planting day and do a gardener's breakfast and just set it up annually (for instance, last Saturday of April each year) to be the start of planting each year.

Leslie Olson said that's a great write-up and she needs about 300 words for Sustainable Jersey so she can get it in to get points for the task. She asked Janet to write it up and get it to Mark so she can ~~write it up~~ include it.

### **Sustainable Jersey:**

**Community Garden** – when Janet does the write-up this should be good.

**Community Education & Outreach - Storm Water** – covered more under the EC meeting.

Based on what Mark Olson has seen, he doesn't see how the GT can make it under the historic preservation task. There was an awful lot of red that came back on what was missing. Things that were missing were such things as the plan, etc. Only one out of 30 municipalities that has tried for it has gotten it so it's pretty tough to get. It may not be something the GT can strive for at this time.

Harry Menta was working on a press release for the gardens for this Saturday. He brought some documents that he had done. One was inviting the press to the event; another was the media advisories announcing the event. As part of this announcement, it was included that several of the local restaurants were joining in the Community Gardens project. Harry will send these documents out to various outlets. One of the plots will be dedicated to the food pantry. The news release also advised that there would be a rain garden at the McGowan Park site. The opening event will be 10:00 a.m. at McGowan Park and 10:30 am at Fellowship Park.

Commissioner Anlian arrived at this point in the meeting.

Mark said when he added it up between points submitted and points that are being worked on; there are about 130 points, which is 20 short. The GT has lost the historic preservation. The State had a lot of red on their comments. He doesn't think this can happen. Mark sent it to Fred Rosen to get his opinion on if it was possible but he doesn't have a response yet. There was another task for implement energy efficiency measures in January. There were two parts to it – energy and inventory. Before you could get points for inventory or doing the action, now you have to do both of them. The ~~DPW GT~~ did the action without doing the inventory first. Mark Olson said he's not saying the GT shouldn't try some of these tasks, but he's not sure this is one of the tasks that will be accomplished.

Commissioner Anlian suggested that Mark set up a meeting with Commissioner MacNeill. He may not be doing an "inventory" but he is active on it. Mark said he ~~sat met~~ with Adam and Alan O'Grady and Adam said he has a whole file cabinet of what has been done but he doesn't have the first part of the task. They would have to reallocate manpower to accomplish this task.

Another task the GT is going to try for is a materials reuse program. The GT will submit for it but there are a couple of things that will really help them out. One is if they could get a sign ~~for it down~~ at the DPW that says Materials Reuse Program and ~~maybe even put it bigger in the~~ include an explanation in the Village Newsletters. Mark said he sat with Donna Rose-McEntee and she kind of knows where she wants to have it but the Village needs to do whatever it needs to get it in. There is room to put it in. Mark was hoping to announce it at Earth Day. It is when you go down to the DPW and you ask Sonny for a piece of trash you want, you ask him for it. All the Village needs to do is put up a sign. Sonny is already reusing discarded items. Here is how Sonny is already helping out; he works with the Women's Club during a flea market. It just needs to be made formal instead of informal. Commissioner Anlian said the GT should just ask the DPW to do it. Commissioner MacNeill is in favor of it and wants to do it but he is no longer in charge of the DPW, Commissioner Kohles is in charge now. This is in transition now.

As far as the recharging station, the GT would get 15 points for it because a few months ago it seemed like a good idea, but nothing has happened with the Village so far. Commissioner Anlian said to make a list of items that are reasonably doable because he does not want to burden the DPW with these tasks and send a reminder with a copy to John Anlian and Adam MacNeill and they'll bring it up. Some of the tasks sound good but aren't really doable.

Mark and Janet were talking about possibly doing a backyard composting sign and maybe run a class or two down at McGowan. It is only 5 points but those tasks are usually easier. He will look into this further.

Make the town electric vehicle friendly. There is already an ordinance. Leslie said she already uploaded the ordinance. She will see what else is required. This is 15 points. There is 25 points if you get a recharging station. Commissioner Anlian said there is no reason why the Village shouldn't have the charging stations. He is starting to see them all over.

Emergency Communications Planning – Janet Malool said that is kind of what the CERT team is doing. Commissioner Anlian said to contact Francine for that. She is there every day. That is worth 15 points. Linda Quinn said the STC would be done with their tasks and that will get 15 points. The GT asked her to look at the tree maintenance program to see if the Village would qualify. Mark Olson thinks the Village should try to submit for any points that might be available.

Leslie has a write-up for the next newsletter on grass cut it and leave it. This N That Hardware is going to donate a mulching blade to be given away at Earth Day. An article about leaves will go in the next newsletter for the fall.

Leslie has spoken to Tara O'Grady about using recycled paper. John Anlian said not everything is doable. It seems that the task states that not everything has to be green but where you can do it and where it makes sense. If recycled paper and non-recycled costs the same, they will want you to use recycled paper. If recycled paper is a lot more expensive, they will not require that. John Anlian said to find an example of an ordinance and let him see it. Leslie said she would find one. John Anlian said there are cleaning people that are contracted out. It was suggested that perhaps the cleaning people could be required to use green products. John asked if it was policy or an ordinance. Policy is 5 points and an ordinance is 10 points. Even 5 points would help. The policy and/or ordinance might be linked to recycled paper or green products. Leslie will look into this.

Harry Menta asked about the poison used for pest control. There is a green product that can be used. Mark said he had spoken to Alan because there is an integrated pest manager task that is worth 10 points. Alan said the Village does not have a pest management at this time. It would have to be built here from scratch. All of these things are doable in the long term maybe not by June 4 this year.

John Anlian suggested that the things that are reasonably doable by the DPW, the GT should make a list and send a copy to Alan, Adam, Theresa Kohles and himself and emphasize that there is a June 4 deadline to meet. As long as there is enough meat in there that the GT is going to do it, there is a chance to get the points. The thing is you can't add to it after June 4. John Anlian said the GT really should try to submit 200 points so there is enough when they don't accept some.

As far as the storm water runoff held March 30, 2017, by ANJEC, **Mark Olson said** it was very well done but very poorly attended **by the public and by** this Board. If the GT and EC sponsor an event, at least the members should show up. The talk was excellent. The GT and EC will sponsor another event. It would have been nice if the Planning Board was present as well.

**There was discussion that it** ~~The problem is that it~~ is very difficult to get a message out. The Bergen Record is more of a regional paper. There is not a lot of local news. The Patriot is gone. There is no other way to communicate other than through the website. It would be nice if there was some site where people could check every day. That is not the way the website works. Maybe if a push was sent to residents, they would access the website more often. The Village might need to think about starting a mailing list. Mark will speak to Pave about this.

Mark and Leslie will meet with Bogota next Wednesday to discuss Earth Day/Green Fair plans.

**New Business** – None at this time.

**Working Session** – Mark Olson reminded members he holds a working session at 6:00 p.m. prior to the regular meeting for anyone interested.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mark Olson and seconded by Leslie Olson adjourning the meeting at 7:56 p.m. All were in favor of this motion.

The next regular meeting will be May 25, 2017, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Mark Olson will hold a working session at 6:00 p.m. prior to the meeting for anyone needing more time to discuss their task.

Notice of second round of Parks Department Master Plan hearings scheduled for Tuesday, May 9 7-10 pm at Two Bergen County Plaza; Wednesday, May 10 from 7- 10 pm at McFaul Environmental Center in Wyckoff; Thursday May 11 from 7-10 pm at Bergen Community College at the Meadowlands in Lyndhurst.

Master Gardener Robyn Lowenthal will speak to the GT on April 27, 2017, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara DeLuca