

**NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2020 AT 7:30 P.M.
OR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING**

**VILLAGE OF RIDGEFIELD PARK
MINUTES OF THE GREEN TEAM
February 27, 2020**

Chair Janet Malool called the meeting to order at 7:56 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, Janet Malool, Harry Menta, Leslie Olson, Mark Olson. Excused – Janet Harris, Eric Koenig, Asai Maschang, Daniele Fede, Gloria Rivera. Absent: Asai Maschang, Flo Muller, Jin Ah Jong, Diane Mancini and Ex Officio Members absent.

The minutes of the January 23, 2020, meeting were approved on a motion made by Leslie Olson and seconded by Guillermo Lopez-Acosta. All were in favor of the motion.

Payment of bills: None this month.

Hearing of Citizens: Nicole Kachadorian and Bobby Gonzalez were present as guests.

Correspondence: None received.

Reports:

Financial: The budget was given in. Janet Malool and Mark Olson went to the Commissioner's meeting about officially using GT money to support the arts. One area was for a major project in the amount of \$10,000.00 and the other was to support the RP Arts Association concerts and projects in the amount of \$5,000.00. The Commissioners agreed to this. They will pay the bills. They do not want the Arts Association to be given the money directly. The GT budget for the previous two years was \$29,500.00. This year the GT asked for an additional \$2,000.00 and project \$2,000.00 income from farmer's market.

Recycling – Plastic Bags & EPS – Oakland and Glen Rock had drives in February. They sent 26 ft U-Haul (50 yds.) to be recycled. Sustainable Princeton called to find out how RP does it.

Bergen Hub: The next meeting is scheduled for March.

Community Garden: Janet Malool said there were some changes in the Oversight Committee. Barbara Wilke stepped down. Bobby Gonzalez took the position. Jodi Jamieson's year position was over. She was put up for a two-year-position. She was unanimously elected to fill the next two years. There are four new gardeners, two at Fellowship and two at McGowan. All that come from now on are at McGowan.

Public Arts Master Plan: Monday night will be the final presentation of the plan. The cultural arts district will be 1/3-mile radius from Mt. Vernon Street. The Planning Board meeting is at 7:30 p.m. and it would be a good idea if members attended to support the Public Arts Master Plan. It will take at least 6-8 months before the entire Master Plan will be passed. The plan is to pass the initial stage.

Sustainable Jersey: The goal is to recertify annually. The GT needs the third priority item to qualify for Silver Certification. The GT needs to make sure expired items are done on time. The application must be resubmitted by June. Mark Olson spoke with Eric Koenig about the energy tracking. Eric Koenig feels the school can do it but the EC should be prepared if they do not.

Janet Malool gave out a list of upcoming webinars that she felt would be helpful for members to try to sign up for. Barbara DeLuca recently took the census webinar since the census is a new action under Community Education and Outreach where the GT can earn up to 20 points. There are extra points available if the GT hosts a Census kiosk.

Omar Khan, Library Director, told Barbara DeLuca he had no problem suggesting the library be used for internet access for residents to complete the census. The 2020 census can be answered in three ways: online, by phone or form. The GT members could take turns sitting at the library for a designated time to be available to those needing assistance using a computer. A table could be set up at Earth Day/Green Fair also offering assistance.

Janet Malool said she would like to start next month picking two actions to work on at the GT meeting. She thinks if people worked in pairs it would be easier to get the tasks done.

Old Business:

Art Crawl: The Art Crawl is scheduled for May 2, 2020, and is being organized by Leslie Olson and Sunny Shin. It is a free, self-guided tour. If vendors intend to sell items, the cost is \$25.00. If vendors intend to just exhibit their art on the fence, the cost is free. The GT applied for a grant to help with the expenses of the Arts Fest and the Art Crawl. The GT will not know about the grant until April

Earth Day/Green Fair: The Green Fair is scheduled for Saturday, June 13, 2020, from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Some members will need to leave earlier to help set up for the Summer Arts Fest also to be held on June 13 beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Summer Arts Fest: The Summer Arts Fest is scheduled for June 13, 2020.

Street Fair: The Street Fair is scheduled for September 19, 2020. The GT usually hosts a table.

Health Fair: The Health Fair is scheduled for October 10 at the K of C. The GT is a co-sponsor of this activity with the Catholic Daughters.

Sustainable Jersey: The Village qualified with 315 points. 75 points expired. Need another priority item for Silver Certification. Most of the points that expire we should be able to get back. SJ was discussed earlier in the meeting in more detail.

New Business:

Robert Gonzalez is to be appointed as an Associate of the GT.

Community Garden: A motion was made by Mark Olson and seconded by Leslie Olson to appoint Jodi Jamieson and Robert Gonzalez to fill open positions in the Garden Oversight Committee; Jodi Jamieson will fill a two-year-position and Robert Gonzalez will fill a three-year position. All were in favor of the motion.

Adopt-A-Garden/Park: The idea shifted to a joint project with the EC. A joint committee between the EC and GT will be set up.

A motion was made by Janet Malool and seconded by Leslie Olson adjourning the meeting at 8:52 p.m. All were in favor of the motion.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 26, 2020, at 7:30 p.m. or immediately following the EC meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara DeLuca