**NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023 @ 7:00 p.m. –**

**VILLAGE OF RIDGEFIELD PARK**

**MINUTES OF SUSTAINABLE RP**

**August 24, 2023**

Vice Chair Veronica Leone called the meeting to order at 7:03 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 the Star Ledger as well as posted on the Village bulletin board. Members present were: Tiffany Chen, Veronica Leone, Harry Menta, Nicole Terrarosa. Absent: Guillermo Lopez-Acosta, Daniele Fede, Janet Harris, Gloria Rivera. Ex Officio Members. Excused: Josephine Carangui, Leslie Olson, Dan Raftery, Dennise Santana, Rita Raftery.

The minutes of the June 22, 2023, meeting were approved on a motion by Harry Menta and seconded by Tiffany Chen. All were in favor of the motion. There was no meeting in July.

**Payment of bills:** None.

**Hearing of Citizens:** Joseph Maggio was present as a resident interested in getting involved with SRP.

**Correspondence****:**

* Memo from Tara O’Grady – Re: Newsletter Deadline August 18

**Reports:**

* **Sustainable Jersey Planning – Submitted 7/27 – Third Round submitted for 420 points.**
	+ Finished second round with 360 points approved, enough for Silver.
* **Health and Wellness – Barbara DeLuca and Leslie Olson**
	+ - Health Assessment Questionnaire ready. We need to get 500 points to be gold.
		- Leslie & Barbara met with Commissioner Gerken.
			* Phase 1 – Village Employees
			* Phase 2 – Make the questionnaire live.
			* SRP will help with the Health Dept. page on website and newsletter articles while they restructure.
	+ Collected 32 pairs of sneakers at Earth Day event and sent them to Sneaker Impact

**Old Business:**

* **Swap & Shop – scheduled for 9/23/23.**
* Veronica will formally contact the school for Swap volunteers - asking for 10.
* Needed the most support from 9:30 - 11:30 for setup and then from 2:30 - 4:30 for wrap up - just in case the

volunteers want to stagger their times.

* Key Club may have a table at the Swap if they want.
* Will check with Janet Harris to see if she wants to collect any of the non-mandated items.
* Get box for sneaker recycling.
* Make sure it is on the municipal message board.
* **Health Fair/Blood Drive – date is 10/14/23.**
	+ Started waiting list for vendors - have about 56 confirmed and 27 on waiting list.
	+ Hackensack Meridian has confirmed several tables, and a few are still pending.
	+ Bobby Lee will loan us his smaller tables as well as have his team work on the floor plan for the tables.
	+ Will collect non-perishable donations for Food Pantry. Patty Acosta is the new contact person.
		- Ask Michelle to post this on social media.
	+ The County Health Officer will handle flu immunizations and tick-borne illnesses.
	+ Advertising for blood drive now. Helpful if members can post to their own social media.
	+ K of C will inform us what time on Friday we can set up.
	+ Members are needed at 8:00 a.m. on 10/14.
	+ Waiting to hear back on the second location. Contacted Academy of Greatness & Excellence and also reserved Civic Center as a Plan B for a second location.
* **Newsletters:** Winter Newsletter – think about suggestions for the next newsletter that gets distributed around 12/1.

#### New Business:

* **Residential Food Waste Composting Kickoff and Orientation**
	+ Sunday, October 1

11am to 1pm

VFW parking lot area

109 Bergen Turnpike

* + Home food waste can be brought that day in up to a 5-gallon pail.
	+ If you are unable to attend the orientation on that day, please send an email to sustainablerp@ridgefieldpark.org.
	+ Leslie will put a general Q&A sheet together for the event date.

#### Dates to Keep in Mind:

* **09/23/23 – Swap & Shop. DEA Drug Takeback @ 10:00 a.m. RPPD**
* **09/27/23 – EPS densifier ribbon cutting 11:00 a.m. at DPW.**
* **09/30/23 – Bergen Busking Festival @ Grove Street 12;00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**
* **10/01/23 – Residential Food Waste Composting Kickoff and Orientation 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. @ VFW**
* **10/07/23 – Street Fair 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**
* **10/07/23 – Jazz Festival – 12:00 pm. – 5:30 p.m. Cedar Street**
* **10/14/23 – Health Fair 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. @ K of C  Blood Drive 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**
* **10/21/23 – Rigid Plastics Recycling and Paper Shredding**
* **11/04/23 – Fall Market & Festival by Arts Association @ Fellowship Park 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**Reminders for future:**

* NJDMV Mobile Unit – maybe do this in 2024 and invite, Bogota & Little Ferry

A motion was made by Veronica Leone and seconded by Nicole Terrarosa to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. All were in favor of the motion.

The next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, September 28, 2023, @ 7:00 P.M**.

Respectfully submitted,

**Barbara DeLuca**

cc: Commissioner Olson Barbara DeLuca