



**Hawthorne Environmental Commission/Green Team Minutes
February 27, 2020**

Call to Order: Rayna Laiosa, Robert Meier, Carol Robertson, Rosanne Zagatta, Mike Mariani, Mary Mahon, and Liana Romano

Guests: Maureen Cook, John Manko, Alexandra Soteriou, Patty Elwood, Lisa DeVos, Craig Cayetano, and Charles Stebbins

- I. Attendance and Acceptance of Meeting –
 - a. Environmental Commission Minutes – January 9, 2020
 - b. Green Team Minutes – January 27, 2020Motion by: Mary Mahon, Second by: Robert Meier

- II. Hawthorne Water Reports - November 2019, December 2019, and January 2020 reports was reviewed and discussed. All water results are fine, below NJDEP water quality standards

- III. Planning Board Report – Discussed 204 Wagaraw Road settlement agreement; total of 118 units of housing (which includes 100 units, 17 affordable family units; 1 unit for on site building manager/superintendent), 123,200 square foot public storage, 16,400 square feet of retail/gym space; Discussed stormwater and flooding issues on site;

- IV. Zoning Board of Adjustment
 - a. 53 Braen Avenue LLC – 10 Sotnick Street Application – Hearing July 2019; Preliminary discussed the revised plans for two (2) family homes in a R-1 Zone; Highlighted past environmental Commission’s concerns (letter dated November 7, 2013); Chair will prepare written report for July meeting; Discussed “draft written report” with the Commission; All agreed with the Environmental Commissions comments; Commission submitted written comments dated July 14, 2019; July meeting was postponed until the August 19, 2019 at 6:45 pm. Encourage all to attend the Zoning Board meeting – Postponed to September 16, 2019 meeting at 6:45 pm; Re-Postponed to Monday December 16, 2019 – Cancelled; **Re-Postponed to Monday February 24, 2020** – Due to conflicting roles, Chair person of the Hawthorne Environmental Commission and Councilwoman for Ward 2, Rayna is unable to testify at Zoning and Planning Board meetings. The Commission report was reviewed and discussed at the February 24, by the Borough Engineer, Boswell. Project revised the disturbance of the steep slopes for the two (2) homes. Applicant will re-submit a revised steep slope figure. Next meeting is April 2020.

- V. Gateway to the Passaic River Project
 - a. New Jersey’s Free Fishing Days – Saturday June 6, 2020 and Saturday October 17, 2020

- b. Re-Start March 2020 – complete the installation of the Rain Gardens and the planting of native plants; Rayna will contact Rutgers and Downes for a re-start of project. Downes completed the installation of the rain gardens and wooden guard rail starting Wednesday January 29 through Friday January 31, 2020. Rayna and Carol monitored the progress. – Rain Gardens are completed; Remining Tasks – install the stones/gravel, plant native plants, and install rain garden sign.
- c. Trail Map Status – Finalized - all agreed 200 copies – 60 lb paper – non-gloss printing; Rayna will communicate to Marc for printing.
- d. Trail Sign, Rain Garden Sign, and tree tags installation – will be installed during the planting of the native plants – Saturday April 25, 2020 at 9”:00 am (Rain Date: Saturday May 2, 2020; Downes need dimensions of the sign posts and the designated locations for the signs.
- e. Rutgers – Native Plants - Rayna contacted Rutgers to let them about the rain garden installation news!; Planting Saturday April 25, 2020 at 9:00 am; (Rain Date: Saturday May 2, 2020)
- f. Grand Opening – Tentatively Scheduled Saturday May 9, 2020 at 10:00 am (Rain Date: Saturday May 16, 2020)

VI. Hawthorne Green Team

- a. Community Garden 2020 – All gardeners are returning; Deadline Friday January 31, 2020; Outstanding – Rita, Mike, Jackie, Barbara/Larry, and Dria; Rayna will send out a friendly reminder email to all; - Completed – February 27, 2020
- b. Bird Walks – Confirmed – Saturday April 11, 2020, Sunday April 26, 2020, and Saturday May 9, 2020
- c. Girl Scouts – Bird Houses (3) – discussed potential locations; - Ambulance Building Corp, not 8 Acre Woods. Rayna will follow up with Maureen;
- d. 8 Acre Woods Discussion – Cub Scouts are planning to conduct a clean up of area; Suggestion that we need heavy equipment to clear the interior trails in the 8 Acre Woods; Downes Tree Service??, John Manko will work with Maureen Cook & Scouts to potentially address this issue. No promises were made.
- e. Need to Create the 2020 Calendar of Events – Lisa DeVos

VII. Trek Plastic Recycling 2020 Program -Hawthorne Environmental Commission

- a. Community Program – town/organization determines the 6 month timeframe
- b. Launch Community Program – April 1, 2020 to October 1, 2020 (Cel Earth Bration with ending Green Fair/Hawthorne Day)
- c. Discussed partnering with the local business/Chamber of Commerce
- d. Agreed no food/restaurants locations – food contamination
- e. Potential Locations – Commissioners/Green Team Members will conduct a preliminary site visit (January 2020) to determine if the location is suitable for a collection bin; 1/9/2020 Team Re-Evaluated List of Potential Locations; Agreed to 5 to 6 locations only; Start small; Ellen Brogno is working on the development of the letter for the announcement of Program to retail businesses

Location	Designated Env Com/Green Team Member
Boro Hall	Liana Romano
Hawthorne Library	Carol Robertson (until June 2020), then Mike Mariani
Sparkler Dry Cleaners	Patty Elwood
Paul’s Motor	Mary Mahon
Hawthorne Farmers’ Market	Robert Meier (June 2020 to October 2020)

B Witching Bath Co.	Waiting for response
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- f. Collection bin – made in the USA cardboard bins; discussed plastic liner to collect the plastics – Agree we need to purchase cardboard bins and plastic liner; Size 40 gallons; Length – 17 1/2 inch; Width 17 1/2 inch; and Height 29 3/4 inch; Maureen will contact approved existing vendor for price comparison from Web Restaurant Store; received information; comparable pricing from local approved vendor. Containers have been ordered – 10 White 42 Gallon corrugated Recycled Material. On each of the containers there will be a 11 x 17 Trex Posters and 11 x 17 Hawthorne Slogan “Reduce Waste Put Plastics In Its Place”; **Next Step:** Need to pricing for printing of the these materials; need 12 of each; Grand Total of 24 11 x 17 posters; Maureen will get printing proposal.
- g. Designated Commissioner/Green Team Member to pick up at the locations; weigh each plastic bags; and report to central point person; Alexandra Soteriou – has a weigh scale for the Plastic to be weighed. 36 Sunrise Drive; Alexandra will keep an Excel spreadsheet of each location weights
- h. Central Point Person – send monthly emails to Trex with weight of plastic recycled for Hawthorne
- i. Designated Drop Off Locations – Acme, Whole Foods, Target and Kohls; Carol will visit Target and Kohls to find out if they will take bulk shipments of the plastic for Hawthorne – After the Holidays – January 2020; Carol went to Target – No – will not accept a large quantity of plastic bags;
- j. Publicity – Posters in the windows of the businesses (similar to Buy Local Campaign posters – Green Map - 8 x 11 flyer with Green Map as the background will be developed - Craig; **Next Step:** Rayna will send all details to Craig
- k. Website/Facebook/Newspapers/Ads/Electronic Boards, Nixel Alerts – Need to include the Goal of the Trex Program is to collect 500 lbs of plastic – Free Recycled Trex Bench!

VIII. 28th Annual Cel Earth Bration April 18, 2020

- a. Theme - Team Agreed: “Reduce Waste Put Plastic In Its Place”
- b. Review Draft T-Shirt Design – Discussed Mike Mariani’s t-shirt designs; Team made additional comments Circle – remove the outer line and remove the inner line; provide options; to the design; Square design for the T-Shirts; Magnets and Bags – Circle design; Mike will update designs and re-circulate to the Team to be reviewed; Bag & T-shirt will be Hawthorne Blue color with white lettering – Conclusion - Finalized T-Shirt Design – Square Design and Finalized Bag Design – Bag #1 – two circles;
- c. Bags – Current vendor Alert Graphics bags are coming from China; raised concerns about the delivery time due to coronavirus; Agreed to identify a 2nd vendor in the USA for the bags; Maureen will investigate.
- d. Focus on Interactive Educational – Demonstrations “Scavenger Hunt”
- e. Prepare and Submit School Application – BOE – Room 120, cafeteria, auditorium, and classrooms; Ensure Sound System is working in Auditorium; Coordinate with HHS Principal – Completed by Rosanne December 2019; Team agreed to utilize the HHS Auditorium with the acknowledgement that the stage will be set up for the HHS Play (musical pit area)
- f. Letters to the Teachers; Flyers, and Green Project registration forms – Rosanne created/approved; will send to Superintendent of Schools for approval and distribution
- g. Potential Vendors
 - 1. Rizzo Reptiles – Mary will reach out to Rosanne to make the booking – two shows – Confirmed and Booked

2. Passaic River Coalition – Carol will reach out to them; located in Morristown.
– Confirmed
3. Pappy’s Juice Bar – Rayna will ask
4. Beekeeper – Mary K – Liana will ask
5. Trex Table
6. Chet Scents – Rayna will ask
7. Shade Tree Commission – Rayna will ask
8. Embrace Dentist – Rayna – Confirmed
9. Green Space/Green Map – Mike Mariani and Charles Stebbins – Confirmed
10. Gateway to the Passaic River project – Carol will update the posters
11. Hawthorne Historical Society – Carol – Confirmed
12. Rocks of Hawthorne – Rosanne
13. PCSPCA – Rayna will ask
14. Reimaged Designs – Rayna will ask
15. Birds of Hawthorne – Lisa DeVos and Holly Cowen
16. Garden Tips & Composting – Carol and Mary
17. Stormwater – Alex???
18. Hawthorne Recycling Program – Confirmed
19. Craft Workshop – Dorothy Rae Morton – Paint Business - Discussion of painting the recycled bags or terra cotta flowering pots; concerns were raised to drying times and attention span of the little kids; Mary will work Dorothy to finalize the details of the craft workshop ; Liana can work with Dorothy on the craft table
20. Plug In Stations Online – Rayna will ask
21. BMW Park Ave – Craig – Confirmed – electric vehicles
22. North Jersey Beekeeper – Carol – Confirmed
23. Hawthorne STEM Program – Rosanne will ask
- h. Face painting/tattoos – HHS Cheerleaders – Rayna – Confirmed
- i. Dirt Cake – Rosanne will follow up with the HHS
- j. Prizes for Green Project – 2020 Donation letter and Excel Spreadsheet – identified Commissioner/Green Team member to request a donation; Rayna will send out the spreadsheet; Bags for the prizes – Alexandra Soteriou will donate bags – made from tree free paper products
- k. Giveaways Budget - \$200 for Rosanne Zagatta
- l. Shredding Day – Municipal Building Saturday April 18, 2020 and Saturday October 3, 2020

- IX. Update on Issues and Commissioners Concerns, Next Steps
- a. Environmental Intern – Daniel Waldeck – project – Review/Update Hawthorne’s Environmental Resource Inventory Report; This report is reviewed and updated every ten (10) years. It is part of Hawthorne’s Master Plan.
 - b. Alexandra Soteriou – Discussed Lyme Disease – Carol suggested Green Lecture at the Hawthorne Library. All agreed; Mary will get available dates in April and communicate to Rayna and Alexandra.

Hawthorne Environmental Commission Meeting
Thursday March 12, 2020 at 7:00 PM
Municipal Building

Hawthorne Green Team Meeting
Monday March 23, 2020 at 7:30 pm
Hawthorne Library