

Sustainable Audubon Meeting Summary for March 2, 2022

Attendees: April Barber (AB); Dani Ingves (DI); Ella Ingves (EI); Rob Jakubowski (RJ); Jeanne Mugler (JM); Sandy Perchetti (SP); Chris Proulx (CP); Elizabeth Quinn (EQ); and Terry Sugihara (TS)

1. RJ - Update of Sustainable Audubon participation in Community Energy Plan Grant and proposal status: The grant application has been written and the support of the Commissioners gotten. Potential consultants have been initially approached. Irrespective of the grant application approval, the plan is to move forward with a no cost energy audit to be conducted by the NJDEP for both the Borough and the Board of Education jointly. This will establish the groundwork for future decisions on renewable energy. Some of this work has been done previously and most recently by the Board of Education. This should facilitate any future audit efforts. A brief discussion of funding availability also followed, but specifics are yet to be determined.
2. JM and TS - Updates on Solar power at the Shed and discussions with other solar panel providers: A motion sensitive doorway light was installed by Riggs Distler to conserve energy use. Repairs to the shed door overhang are to begin shortly with painting to follow. Potential solar energy firms for Sustainable Audubon to partner with regarding community use of solar energy were discussed. The decision was made to put the solar outreach effort by TS on temporary hold for the near term.
3. Melissa Wintermute (MW) - Arts & Culture team update: The update was postponed to a later, to be determined, meeting.
4. RJ and TS - Stormwater study status update and liaison with Newton Creek Watershed Association to include Newton Creek dredging project update: The four town stormwater study's request for proposal was obtained from Sharon McCullough (Haddonfield Business Administrator) via Robert Bergbauer. Initial review by TS did not reveal any new information. The study is currently in the stormwater information inventory confirmation phase. TS monitoring of the study will continue.

Related to the Newton Creek Dredging Project being led by Camden County, there was a discharge of flocculant at the Oaklyn Public Works yard which has subsequently been cleaned up. No outstanding issues are known. RJ indicated there was no concern on the part of the Borough. Newton Creek Watershed Association has requested assistance from Sustainable Audubon to review plans of the proposed Peters Creek Stream Restoration with particular focus on the bank stabilization and erosion control measures. The area of concern is that portion of Peters Creek bordered by West Nicholson Road

and extending from West Atlantic Avenue past the Village Court Complex. This review will be done by TS (for the project area within the Borough) to the extent time permits.

5. JM and EI - Social media update: Current social media outreach efforts are being continued. Under consideration is information distribution regarding the New Jersey May 4, 2022 single use plastics ban.
6. Ann Gillespie (AG) and DI - TREX recycling update: AG emailed that 75 lbs. of plastic had been collected this month and that with 2 months to go, we have exceeded the requirement to obtain another TREX bench. This new bench is proposed to be placed at the Recreation Center and would make a total of 5 benches that Sustainable Audubon will have obtained. Two benches have already been designated for use at the Shed; one is already at the Victory Garden; and one is to be placed at the Memorial Grove in the Spring of 2022. DI indicated there is an issue with securing the benches in the vicinity of the Shed due to interference with Borough landscape operations. Discussed also was the diversion of extra plastic collected under the current Sustainable Audubon program to the parallel Audubon High School effort. CP will reach out to Matt Webb to establish if a separate account with TREX can be set up through Audubon High School. This will allow for additional TREX benches (under the auspices of the Audubon High School) to be obtained above and beyond the current Sustainable Audubon effort.
7. DI - Insurance required training, Shredding event: DI will arrange for the insurance required training prior to Audubon Day.

An early October 2022, paper shredding event is again being proposed. Particulars are to be finalized out by DI.

8. JM, DI, and RJ - Audubon Day: RJ indicated that the April 30, 2022, Audubon Day will be a two part event. The location will be the Audubon Family Park. There will be a 10:00 am to 3:00 pm session to include a vendor fair; inside Recreation Center activities; and a Kid Zone. Sustainable Audubon will establish a booth proximal to the Shed. Solar energy system information, rain garden information, 2,000 tree saplings (led by Cheryl Hauske (CH)), and polypropylene reusable tote bags will be among the items distributed. Stormwater education (Denyse Bieg (DB)), recycling game (EI), and a wildlife program (SP) are also planned. There will also be a later session from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm that is more adult oriented with a live band performing. An Audubon Celebration Committee hosted meeting at 7:00 pm on March 8, 2022 will be part of the organizational activities.
9. Other/new business:
 - a. SP: AARP grant for civic outreach was discussed as a senior community project. A Kid-Senior interaction zone in the Recreation Center was envisioned.

- b. EQ: Status of the outreach to Camden County Parks regarding a native plant initiative was discussed. Note that subsequent to this meeting and following an inquiry by RJ, Maggie McCann Johns responded to our earlier letter and offered some project possibilities (an Eagle Scout project and/or a Bar Mitzvah celebrant project). EQ and JM will do follow up.
10. Date of next meeting is 7:00 Wednesday, April 6, 2022 at the Audubon Senior Center.
11. Review of tasks to be done from this meeting:
- a. RJ to submit Community Energy Plan Grant application and follow up on related activities.
 - b. RJ to arrange NJDEP energy audit and coordinate with Board of Education. CP will assist with Board of Education outreach.
 - c. Bob Mugler (BM) will complete repair and painting of the Shed entryway.
 - d. TS to continue monitoring four town stormwater management study.
 - e. TS to provide comments on Peters Creek Restoration project as requested by Newton Creek Watershed Association (to the extent time allows).
 - f. EI to look into potential social media action to educate the community on the single use plastic ban.
 - g. CP to contact Matt Webb regarding single use plastic program coordination under the Audubon High School lead.
 - h. DI to coordinate training required for Sustainable Audubon personnel to interface with the public.
 - i. DI to look into identifying the details of an early October 2022 paper shredding event.
 - j. EQ is to inform the group when mulching activities are to be done in preparation for Audubon Day activities. Volunteers will accomplish the desired mulching.
 - k. JM will oversee and coordinate Sustainable Audubon participation regarding Audubon Day.
 - l. SP to follow up on AARP grant application.
 - m. EQ and JM will follow up on potential native plant projects.