

## Sustainable Audubon Meeting Summary for April 6, 2022

Attendees: Denyse Bieg (DB); Ann Gillespie (AG); Cheryl Hauske (CH); Dani Ingves (DI); Rob Jakubowski (RJ); Jeanne Mugler (JM); Sandy Perchetti (SP); Chris Proulx (CP); Elizabeth Quinn (EQ); and Terry Sugihara (TS); Melissa Wintermute (MW)

1. RJ - Update of Sustainable Audubon participation in Community Energy Plan Grant and proposal status: Grant has been submitted. Progress on the energy audits has been delayed due to staff transitions. Energy consultant selection will wait until the grant is approved. No developments in terms of funding options for future construction or development of energy work.
2. JM and TS - Updates on Shed: Entry way repairs were completed by Bob Mugler who also cleaned the inside of the Shed. Requested signage related to interior lights was accomplished by TS. Purchase of items to include a table and an air pump using the Borough provided annual funding was discussed and agreed to. Tax exemption must be used to get reimbursement by Borough.
3. CP – Discussion on how to best encourage or support Audubon High School teacher student projects (including solar energy panel installation): Postponed until the next meeting.
4. EQ and JM – Update on Haddon Lake native plant initiative: Maggie McCann Johns has not responded to the requested coordination call. Other options to increase Plant diversity through the construction of a butterfly garden were discussed. Possibilities for within Borough locations to be examined. MaryAnn Brown will be approached for potential placement in the Memorial Garden. Subsequently, she agreed in principle. A Lions Club location option was also discussed.
5. RJ and TS – Update on Four Town Stormwater Management study status: No new information has been provided.
6. TS – Update on liaison with Newton Creek Watershed Association to include Newton Creek dredging project update: Support of the project was provided via a review of the requested plans. However, it was subsequently determined that the plans have been finalized and that the provided input was moot.
7. Ann Gillespie (AG) and CP - TREX recycling update: AG indicated the school was not eligible for the program that Sustainable Audubon is in. In the program the school would be eligible for, they would likely not be successful in securing a bench. Plastic

recycling to continue as currently done until the impact of the plastic and paper bag ban starting May 4, 2022 is better known.

8. DI - Insurance required training update: Training is still to be arranged.
9. DI - Shredding event update: Paper shredding event will be September 10, 2022, Saturday, 9:00 to 12:00. DI is in discussions with other towns for cost sharing purposes. Location is similarly under negotiation. Also discussed was an electronic hardware disposal event, but final resolution not reached. SP will do a flyer for the event.
10. SP and DI - AARP grant update: Grant application has been submitted and will be handled by the Recreation Center (not Sustainable Audubon).
11. JM, DI, and RJ - Audubon Day update and discussion of event preparation:
  - a. Sustainable Audubon will set up near the Shed on the grass with other tables set up adjacent for the Cedar Run Refuge group and the Atlantic Audubon group. Vendors will be outside as well with the hockey rink the proposed Beer Garden location.
  - b. Sustainable Audubon activities include recycle game (prize); stormwater education; tote hand out (donation requested); arbor tree distribution; milkweed seed packet handout; Sustainable Audubon accomplishment handout; rain garden handout and/or photo frame presentation.
  - c. Things needed to be done prior include:
    - 1.) EQ provided a status report on both rain gardens and reported normal Spring budding and growth with the switchgrasses lagging behind. General clean up and mulching are needed at both locations. Following EQ's report on the rain garden status, it was determined that Shed rain garden maintenance would be desirable prior to Audubon Day. This will be done Saturday 9:00 April 23, 2022 (volunteers include EQ, JM, and TS). EQ to also provide temporary plant identification signage at the Shed rain garden. TS to arrange for mulch for the Shed rain garden to be available prior to April 23, 2022.
    - 2.) CH will make a donation bucket.
    - 3.) Copying of handouts to be considered.
    - 4.) Set up to start prior to 9:00 Saturday April 30, 2022.
  - d. Volunteers over the course of Audubon Day include JM (9-3); CH (9-12); AG (9-12); EQ (9-3); DB (9-3); Ellie Ingves (10-3); TS (9-3).
12. Other/new business:

- a. Arts and culture update by MW. Currently in a restart and transitioning mode regarding leadership. Steven Wilson garden walk is being discussed by that group.
  - b. RJ requested that a location for placement of the Salem Oak sapling be determined by Sustainable Audubon in coordination with the Borough. This would include a care plan as well.
  - c. Discussion regarding potential propagation of the Audubon record tree elm as a handout or funding source was initiated by TS. Discussion to be continued.
  - d. Aimee Bentley, professional horticulturalist, to make a presentation on May 4, 2022 to Sustainable Audubon regarding a town tree plan.
  - e. The topic of Sustainable Audubon recertification was discussed. DB to reevaluate the situation and render an opinion.
13. Date of next meeting is 7:00 Wednesday, May 4, 2022 at the Audubon Senior Center.
14. Review of tasks to be done from this meeting:
- a. TS to purchase table and other items under Sustainable Audubon account with reimbursement by Borough.
  - b. EQ to follow up on butterfly plant additions to Memorial Garden.
  - c. DI to finalize training.
  - d. DI to continue arranging shredding event details.
  - e. Group - Shed rain garden clean up and mulching on April 23, 2022.
  - f. EQ to make plant identification signage.
  - g. TS to send copy request to DI.
  - h. CH to make donation bucket.
  - i. Group - Audubon Day physical set up on April 30, 2022.
  - j. MW to continue Arts and Culture transition.
  - k. Group - Location and care plan to be developed for Salem Oak.
  - l. DB to reevaluate Sustainable Audubon recertification potential.