Sustainable Audubon Meeting Summary for January 5, 2022

Attendees via Zoom: Ann Gillespie (AG); Cheryl Hauske (CH); Dani Ingves (DI); Ella Ingves (EI); Rob Jakubowski (RJ); Jeanne Mugler (JM); Elizabeth Quinn (EQ); Terry Sugihara (TS); Brittany Sweigart – Barrington resident (BS); and Melissa Wintermute (MW)

1. RJ: Discussion of Sustainable Audubon participation in Community Energy Plan Grant.

The grant is potentially for $10,000 and it is proposed to fund consultant activities to develop a plan for Audubon relative to renewable energy options such as solar power generation, electric vehicle purchase, and construction of charging stations. RJ supports obtaining municipal bond funding in the $500,000 plus range to accomplish the actual work. There will be a public meeting on the grant February 15, 2022. RJ will write the grant application which is due the middle of March 2022. Input is to be emailed to RJ directly.

1. MW: Creative team update. The creative team has approximately 7 members currently and is still organizing. They are developing a mission statement and planning on conducting an asset inventory. They are looking to work in cooperation with local businesses and schools. Restart of previous mural art efforts by Steven Wilson is being explored. The intention is for the team to work under the umbrella of the Green Team. Consequently, TS indicated Creative Team updates will be made a regular feature on the Sustainable Audubon meeting agenda.
2. JM: ARC shed solar work update. Most of the solar panel and storage battery installation has been completed by the Riggs Distler work crew and will include external and internal lighting as well as a power source .
3. JM: ARC shed entryway repair update. Bob Mugler (BM) is awaiting the completion of the Riggs Distler installation before completing the renovation of the Shed’s entryway overhang. BM will continue the work when the weather improves.
4. TS: Brochure reprinting completed. Revised rain garden brochures have been printed (300) and are currently stored in the Shed.
5. TS: Tote bag reorder completed. Supply of the updated tote bags (300) has been produced and is currently stored in the Shed.
6. EQ: Milkweed pod initiative update. EQ has purchased 100 brown and 100 multi-color envelopes and will fill them with milkweed pods for distribution at Audubon Day and similar events.
7. JM and EI: Social media update. JM indicated Sustainable Audubon has 583 followers on Facebook and 520 on Instagram. EI recently posted to Instagram a plastic Cocokind bottle that she repurposed. Cocokind, a sustainable skincare company with 300k followers, reposted and tagged SA. The post has received 1300 likes. Congratulations to EI.
8. AG: Trex recycling update. AG indicated we are well on our way to earning another Trex bench. The bench that was earned the last cycle is scheduled for Memorial Grove once it arrives. The future location of the next bench has not been decided yet, but the Recreation Center has been discussed as a potential location.
9. JM: Letter to Camden County Parks on pollinators update. No response from Camden County Parks yet. RJ will follow up with Maggie McCann Johns personally if the opportunity arises.
10. JM: Discussion of Mini Green Fair during Audubon Day. The potential for holding Audubon Day was discussed. Plans will be continued assuming it will be held. Electric vehicle display, tote bag distribution, milkweed pod distribution, stormwater demonstration display, and recycling games were among the activities Sustainable Audubon would consider undertaking. This topic will be discussed further at a later meeting.
11. JM: Cleanup discussion. Possible locations near Green Wave Park were mentioned. JM will continue to develop candidate site listing and share local cleanups on social media.
12. TS: Significant Accomplishment draft for review. TS circulated draft to attendees. TS will finalize the draft.
13. Other/new business:
14. RJ is working on creating interpretive signs for use as part of the historic walk effort. Signs to be made shortly.
15. JM and Sandy Perchetti (SP) are working on artwork for stormwater messaging.
16. Stormwater initiative discussed. This is the multi-town effort (Haddonfield, Haddon Heights, Barrington, and Audubon) involving a Transportation and Community Development grant ($164,000) to mitigate the local flooding problems. Pennoni Associates has been hired to help and is currently inventorying the known concerns. The goal will be to better use existing green and open spaces to reduce the issues caused by the lack of infrastructure and the increased frequency and magnitude of flooding events.
17. Kenneth Leap of Reimagine/Runnemede Green Team wants to meet with representatives of other green teams. Participation was briefly discussed.
18. Date of next meeting is 7:00 Wednesday, February 2, 2022 at the Audubon Senior Center or by Zoom.
19. Review of tasks to be done from this meeting
20. All are to provide input to RJ on Community Energy Plan Grant
21. TS will reach out to contacts for consultant options.
22. TS will add the Creative Team Update to the regular meeting agenda.
23. MW will provide Creative Team member information to DI.
24. EQ will load the milkweed pods into the envelopes.
25. RJ will speak to Mary McCann Johns abut pollinator letter if the opportunity presents itself.
26. JM will develop list of future cleanup location opportunities.
27. TS will finalize Sustainable Audubon Events and Activities draft.
28. TS will monitor the stormwater initiative effort.
29. JM will follow up on Kenneth Leap green team meeting proposal.
30. All will coordinate with DI to attend insurance required training being conducted via Zoom.