

GREEN TEAM MEMBERS:

Marie Papaleo	<u>X</u>
Laura Hoogstrate, Env. Rep.	<u>X</u>
Chris Leishman	<u>X</u>
Henry Semmler, Shade Tree	<u>X</u>
Mary Ann Komar, Rec. Rep.	<u>X</u>
Ally Matthews	<u>X</u>
Michael Lam	<u>X</u>
Shu Lam	<u>X</u>
Kiera Caslin, RDHS Rep.	<u>X</u>
Linda Mei	<u>X</u>
Karen Clemments	<u>X</u>

AUDIENCE : Michael Liguori

PATTY ALMBERG: Stated Linda Mei and Karen Clemments have been attending a number of meetings and have been approved by the Mayor and Council as members of the RE Green Team. She thanked them for volunteering their time. Advised she heard from Sustainable Jersey and they are approved for Bronze Certification, and that Sustainable Jersey was looking for the toy drive numbers and the amount of Styrofoam collected from those organizations. Questioned Laura about the kiosk board by the boat ramp.

LAURA HOOGSTRATE: Advised she will see Tyler on the 30th and that he is working on getting a better map.

PATTY ALMBERG: Questioned Laura about the storm drain program.

LAURA HOOGSTRATE: Advised she spoke with Jason Milito and he advised her that DPW is going to clean and prime the two storm drains and they should have the drains painted within the month.

PATTY ALMBERG: Questioned if the students that participated in the program were recognized.

LAURA HOOGSTRATE: Advised the students were recognized at the Mayor and Council meeting, who gave Certificates to the students, which she dropped off at their respective school.

PATTY ALMBERG: Questioned how the Garden Contest went.

LINDA MEI: Stated it went well and they received 5 entries. Advised since there were only 5 entries, they all received a \$10 Ace gift certificate.

PATTY ALMBERG: Questioned Karen regarding the Speakers Series.

KAREN CLEMMENTS: Stated according to her notes the speakers they were interested in were Tony Rocco and Don Torino and they were going to check with Lissette regarding a check for \$200-\$250 for the speakers. Additionally, Allison Matthews was going to check dates with the library.

PATTY ALMBERG: Advised they would do the speech “Adopting Small Farm Methods to a Backyard Garden” and that Tony Rocco had October available.

DAVID KRAFT: Stated they need to get moving on that and he would check with Allison to see if she heard anything from the library. Questioned Patty if she spoke with Lissette.

PATTY ALMBERG: Stated she has not, but it should be fine as it is within their budget. Advised they need to check to make sure there are no conflicts with the schools during the month of October or other activities in the town. Asked for a social media update.

MARIE PAPAEO: Stated she has been posting whatever the members send to her, as well as posting it on Instagram. Advised they do not seem to have as many followers on Instagram as they do on Facebook. Stated she occasionally gets requests from other towns on their Facebook page, but she usually declines them, and questioned what other members thought.

PATTY ALMBERG: Questioned if the requests are environmentally related.

MARIE PAPAEO: Advised sometimes it is, but questioned even if they are environmentally related, are they okay with posting the other towns information on their Facebook page.

DAVID KRAFT: Stated if it is environmentally related it should be fine as it helps promote information or other events that is going on in the area.

KAREN CLEMMENTS: Agreed and stated the other towns may end up cross-posting this Commissions events, so it becomes a mutual partnership.

PATTY ALMBERG: Questioned David about the data collection.

DAVID KRAFT: Advised there is nothing new, as they have not done anything since the last meeting.

PATTY ALMBERG: Advised September 30th is the Hackensack River Sweep with Oradell and New Milford and asked Laura for an update.

LAURA HOOGSTRATE: Advised the boats go in at Oradell, paddlers pick up the trash as they go along, and the trash and boats come out in River Edge. Stated Jason is all set for that and the DPW will have a dumpster and cones to put out, and they can decide on the day of the clean-up if they want to put their own boats in the water as long as they have enough paddlers. Advised the Riverkeeper sent out a flyer, but they do not like to over advertise the River Sweep, but it can be done now since it is close to the event. Stated she does not know how many people registered, as there is a max and she does not know if it is filled. Stated there will be 2 separate events, a land clean-up and a water clean-up and is not sure if there will be pizza. Advised they can submit this clean-up for a mini grant and questioned Patty if she wants to take care of that.

PATTY ALMBERG: Stated she texted Lissette and Don regarding the mini grant and they do not believe they received any money from the last river clean up. Advised she will reach out to somebody at Clean Community for verification that they received the money. Questioned if anyone is interested in attending the river sweep.

DAVID KRAFT: Stated he will try to be there for the cleaning of the bank.

PATTY ALMBERG: Stated she would like to go out in a boat, if possible. Advised October 1st is River Edge Day at Memorial Park from 1:00-4:00. She will be attending and would like to have the garden contest photos to display, along with their regular display and giveaways. Questioned if anyone else can make it.

LINDA MEI: Stated she will not be there but will have the photographs of garden contest.

PATTY ALMBERT: Questioned if there is anything else they should tell people about.

LAURA HOOGSTRATE: Asked Kiera if she could see if there are some students at River Dell that need service hours and would not mind helping out in the booth on River Edge Day.

KIERA CASLIN: Stated she will ask the Environmental Club and stated the Science National Honor Society is working on volunteer opportunities for their members and questioned if there is an age restriction to be on the boats for the river clean up.

LAURA HOOGSTRATE: Advised there are restrictions, but the land clean-up is completely open to any age, and that they must be 18 to use canoes. Stated for volunteer hours they can take the trash off the boats or if they are interested in a volunteer program

to talk to Tyler to see if the Riverkeeper can plan a River Dell Science Honor Society clean-up.

PATTY ALMBERG: Questioned Kiera if there is a certain area the Science National Honor Society wants the volunteer hours in.

KIERA CASLIN: Stated not that she is aware of.

PATTY ALMBERG: Suggested possibly the kiosk board or attend the Speaker Series to help check people in.

PAM GOULD: Stated they will also need volunteers to help with the Styrofoam collection.

PATTY ALMBERG: Stated she has had several emails from different groups asking if there will be a Styrofoam collection, so there is interest and questioned Pam what is happening with the Styrofoam collection.

PAM GOULD: Advised they will collect on the 14th of October, along with shredding and Jason and Lissette are on board. It is all set up and it has been posted on the River Edge website, Nixle and Facebook. Stated she has hand-outs she will give to the library and the stores to post. She is advertising as much as she can and asked Patty if she can put it on the Bergen Hub.

PATTY ALBERG: Questioned if everybody is good with opening it up to other towns.

PAM GOULD: Stated most of the other towns post it and open it to other towns, so she feels it would not be fair if River Edge didn't open it up.

LAURA HOOGSTRATE: Stated they send people to other towns when they are looking for one of these events, and the point is to collect it and keep it out of the landfill.

PAM GOULD: Advised she received a message from the shredding company giving requirements that shredding is for personal and sensitive information, not magazines greeting cards, photographs, etc. and they cannot accept stuff that comes in barrels and plastic bags. Stated she will post that information and that she is going to need help. The event is from 9:00am – 1:00pm.

PATTY ALMBERG: Stated she will send out an email asking who can attend to the upcoming events and Kiera can forward that to the Environmental or Science Club. Advised that Bergen County Utility Authority offers municipalities a free shredding day every year, which she advised Lissette, who said she will look into it. Advised the next Sustainable Bergen Hub meeting is October 30th in Allendale. State she reached out to Lissette regarding the budget and the Green Team is with Beautification whose budget is \$1600, and the Environmental budget is \$1750, which they use approximately half of that amount.

LAURA HOOGSTRATE: Questioned if they need a prize this year for River Edge Day.

MARY DALY: Questioned if you need her to reach out to DEP for any give aways.

LAURA HOOGSTRATE: Advised they have a lot of ice scrapers and cards for anti-idling, so she is not sure if they need anything.

PATTY ALMBERG: Advised she also has a box of reusable bags they can hand out.

CHRIS CASLIN: Questioned if there is any literature out regarding how to dispose of lithium-ion batteries.

MARY DALY: Stated she can look into that.

CHRIS CASLIN: Suggested contacting the fire department to see if they have any information.

PATTY ALMBERG: Stated the DPW placed a small box in the library for regular battery disposal.

LAURA HOOGSTRATE: Advised the Police Department has a box for medication along with CVS and suggests next time you see something like that to take a picture of it so it can be posted.

PAMELA GOULD: Questioned if you are supposed to recycle the medication in the original bottles.

CHRIS CASLIN: Stated it depends on the location, but most of the time they want you to remove all personal information from the bottle.

KAREN CLEMMENTS: Stated there was a collection outside Roosevelt where they were collecting bottle caps, which is no longer there, and questioned if anyone knew of a place that is collecting them.

LAURA HOOGSTRATE: Stated she was going to reach out to the school principals to see if they are starting that collection again. Suggested whenever you see a collection, to take a picture as the Commission needs to keep posting pictures.

MICHAEL LIGUORI: Stated on September 30, he is coaching 2nd grade soccer so he will be at KGB Field and questioned if you want him there earlier to help with the clean-up.

DAVID KRAFT: Stated it can be before or after, they welcome the help.

MICHAEL LIGUORI: Questioned if the Commission focuses on the water quality, or if that is considered municipal.

LAURA HOOGSTRATE: Advised they work with the municipality regarding storm drain awareness and there are Watershed Ambassadors that go into the schools and present to the 5th graders about the water quality issues, beyond that water quality falls under the municipalities.

Next meeting November 21st.

MEETING ENDED