

Zoom attendees: Ellen, Margo, Jodi, Sarah, Monica, Robin

DISCUSSION NOTES

Conditional Usage—Gas Station in POP

- EC/GT has developed a “template” of a letter to the Planning Board for groups and individuals to use, and recommends that everyone reach out to friends and family to use the template and send a letter to the Planning Board. With no application currently active, this may be the opportune time to modify the ordinance. The Planning Board recommended at its October meeting that this issue be addressed at their next meeting. Everyone is encouraged to attend the next Planning Board meeting on November 2. Please consider reading up on the ordinances and the Master Plan to ID more rationale in support of removing Gas Station as a conditional usage in the POP.

Gas Station Application for Willow Court Site

- The NJDEP has issued a “Technical Deficiency Letter” to the 2 Willow Court Applicant. Applicant’s lawyer has indicated that the applicant is continuing to gather material(s) to respond to the DEP in preparation to again submit an application to Hope.

Warehouses/CFSD Events

- Weight study, possible restrictions for 521/519 from Route 80 to Route 46, may help to alleviate some of the large truck traffic in Hope, however, it is recommended that everyone become/stay involved with County and White Township Meetings that address Warehouse Development. The Citizens for Sustainable Development FB page and website is a source of information
- Watch for the next CFSD fund-raising activities (Silent Auction end of October), needed to pay for professional support such as that of the Delaware River Keepers.

Rain Barrel / Plant Xchange Project

- The township is in receipt of a rain barrel and accessories to connect to a down spout on the municipal building. We may install the barrel within the next 2 weeks, but not begin the flow into the barrel to keep it in winter mode. We can have a grand hook-up celebration, making a video and providing information as a community outreach effort (SJ Action), simultaneously kicking off a Plant Xchange Project—Spring 2021
- Anticipated site for the rain barrel is the downspout on the court wing, rear, next to the parking lot, with the plant Xchange right by it
- It would be nice to use this occasion to coordinate with the school to share rain barrel/stormwater information with students.

Recycling

- There are 2 storage bins behind the municipal building for the collection of recyclables: #2 and #4 plastic bags and film; K-cups; mercury thermostats, used batteries (only lithium ion (Li-Ion), small sealed lead acid (SSLA/Pb), Ni-MH, Ni-Zn and Ni-Cd; books for the Book Nook; T-shirts.
- We are within 30 of the 500 lbs. needed to earn a free bench from TREX. What should we do once this collection has reached its goal? Is there another person in this group or in town who would want to continue collecting?

Swayze Mill Park — Proposed Pavilion

- Is the current proposed site (at the end of the parking lot in front of and just left of the fenced area where the helicopter lands). The location is closed to parking, clear of wetlands, in sight of the pond. Is there a better site? Check out what’s in the area and examples online.

Hope Township Environmental Committee and Green Team Meeting *Tuesday, October 20, 2020*

- Can we create a truly sustainable pavilion: concrete, bamboo or other building materials? Solar panels? Rain barrel?

Property Complaints

- On 521, north of the State Trooper barracks, newly-fenced area “farm”. Neighbors are complaining of noise, lights, traffic, possible construction infringement on wetlands, questionable treatment of animals. The TC has been notified. Documented information is needed.

Festival of Trees (Part of Moravian Christmas Candle-Light Tour December 12

- The EC-GT will again participate in decorating a Christmas themed “Environmental” — Ornaments to be handmade from recycled material, possibly working with a blue, green and white color scheme.
- We need white Christmas lights for the tree, ideally reused, given by someone who no longer wants white lights. The 2019 tree easily fit over 700 lights.

Dark Skies

- Hope pays for @40 Street lights and is considering changing to LED lights to save money. Can we recommend the a specific bulb that would save money and adhere to Dark Sky needs? Jodi is reaching out to the UACNJ for information and will appreciate information from everyone.
- What about Trout Alley lights?

Green Fair

- The school is currently off limits to anyone but students and teachers, and may be so until June. We can proactively concentrate on developing a much improved virtual Green Fair

Sustainable Jersey 2022 Action Point Opportunities

- “Enhanced Storm water Management Control Ordinance” if Hope will update their Ordinance as per latest State requirements
- “Community Education and Outreach” for rain barrel demonstration
- “Municipal Energy Audit” follow up on the 2019 audit