Green Team Minutes

May 28, 2019

Members Present: Jerry Barron, Mary Ann Cernak, Freddy Dare, Nick Huszar, Lauren Lastimosa, Valerie Leone, Kathi Novak, Evelyn O’Donnell - Deputy Mayor, Mike Rizzo, Brian Tannenhaus, Elaine Taylor

Guests: Sandra Solly
Meeting called to order at 7:10pm and March 26, 2019 minutes approved by members

Discussion:

School Projects – Mary Ann reported a Breakfast was given for the Project Plus class at Howell Middle School South in recognition of their outstanding videos in the National Geographic’s GeoChallenge concerning watersheds with the theme of “Tackling Plastic.” The videos can be seen on Howell TV channel 77. Members from Howell Green Team, Environmental Commission, School Board, and Council were present. The Breakfast was followed by a discussion with the class on what environmental issues most concerned them.

Farmers Market – is temporarily on hold related to Howell not having a farmer’s market ordinance. Howell does have a flea market ordinance which only allows meeting in one place 5 times. While the GT supports continued planning of a farmer’s market it is currently prohibitive until Howell Council passes a farmer’s market ordinance.

Howell Organic Community Garden – Mary Ann reported she was writing the application for a $1500 ANJEC grant for the HOCG to help purchase a fence to keep the rabbits out. Valerie and Brian talked about how the community benefits from the “plant a row” portion of the garden. What is planted around the perimeter of the garden is donated to the Howell food pantry, senior center & soup kitchens.

Community Outreach: Brian T. did not hear back from the magazine regarding Howell Green Team article.

Green Team Goals: It was decided to focus on 2 goals at this time.

1. Storm water management
2. Eliminate single use plastic bags and straws by ordinance

Howell Day/Green Fair (9-21-2019) Brian T. said he has a template for Green Team brochures for Howell Day/Green Fair and it will not be necessary to have a new design to meet deadline for NJ state printing.

Freddy has reached out to Tesla to have EV’s (electric vehicles) demonstrated at Howell Day/Green Fair. No response via email but he will continue his efforts in talking to a Tesla rep.

Sustainable Jersey Grant – Since Howell did not get the 10,000 SJ grant for an updated Environmental Resource Inventory, the Shade Tree Commission is looking into providing additional funding for an ERI. Originally, if Howell had received the grant the Shade Tree Commission was going to match the $10,000.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm
Next Meeting June 25 at 7:00pm

Minutes submitted by:
Kathi Novak
Member