



**Minutes: Regular Monthly Meeting**  
**February 3, 2014**  
**Hammonton Town Hall – 7:00 PM**

➤ **Attendees:**

**GC Members:**

Susan Coan   Gina DiMeglio   Nancy Fonte  
Ryan Entress   Amy Menzel   Kerry Patton, Nick Berenato  
Sara Verillo, Dan Bachalis, Gina DeMiglio

**GC Friends:** Barbara Neary, Linda Esposito, Nick Fasola

- **Selection of a Chair of the Committee** - Amy Menzel nominated chair; voted by the committee and approved!
- **Welcome new GC Members** - Lisa Puentes and Nick Berenato
- **Discussion of any other officers?**
  - Susan Coan offered to serve as the Secretary
  - Potentially need Treasurer
  
- **Egg Harbor Road Clean-up** - Tentative March 9<sup>th</sup>
  
- **Eye Opening Film and Lecture** - Nancy provided report on 2014 plans
  - **Winter – Chasing Ice**; date TBD pending meeting with Eagle Theater
  - **Spring** - end of May we will do a partnership with Master Gardeners; will do 3 short TED Talks on Gardening; will coincide with planting of Garden
  - **Summer – Fresh** – about the local food movement; potential partnership with the Farmers Market
  - **Fall – Cinemability**;
  - Also, Dan recommended we partner with Barbara Fiedler to show Fierce Green Fire to be done around Earth Day in Hammonton at the Eagle Theater;
  - Sara Verillo offered to prepare flyers to publicize the EOFLS
  - Nancy will contact Sandy Templeton from the Master Gardeners to see if we still want to partner with them to plant the formal native plant garden in front of Eagle Theater.
  
- **Hammonton Lake Clean-up is March 29<sup>th</sup>** – meet at 9:30 at the Canoe Club; Bob Reitemyer will be reaching out to organize the volunteers.
  - Amy suggested that next year we hope to expand the clean up day to be broader in scope - with volunteers out in more neighborhoods conducting clean-ups.

## **New Business:**

- **Sustainable Jersey** - Dan reported that SJ wants to do a spotlight on Hammonton as a Sustainable Jersey Certified Silver; we have been asked to submit a photo of the GC! Dan will take and submit.
- **Review of 2014 Action Plan:** see attached doc. Amy reviewed the list.
  
- **Green Day 2014** – Discussion of date and location- Saturday Sept. 13 ; kick off planning meeting with Cassie Iacovelli and Carol Orsi in February
- **Earth Day 2014 at ACUA – Sunday April 27<sup>th</sup>**; will need volunteers to work shifts for the day
- **Hammonton Bike Rack Project** – Dan reported that the joint committee with Rotary and Downtown Hammonton are at the state of selecting a design for the rack. Want to get the project completed by May in time for Bike Awareness Month and the Atlantic City Triathlon to be held on June 29<sup>th</sup>. The GC has committed to contribute \$1,000 to the project.
- **Re-activate the Community Wildlife Habitat Project - “Wild About Hammonton”** Dan reported that he submitted a “Small Grant” Application to support the promotion and adoption of the Wildlife Habitat Project. During 2014 will need to create a plan to market the program. Linda suggested that we create a lecture and other information sessions about what it takes to create a habitat. Dan also suggested that we get Hammonton High School Media students to create a promo that could air on Channel 9. Amy suggested that we invite the South Jersey Native Plant Society to have a meeting in Hammonton.
- **Third Thursday** - Participate at some 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays
- **Farmers Market** - need to get out a sign up sheet and develop ideas of what we can promote at our table. Nick suggested that we promote the Wildlife Habitat at the Farmers Market.
- **Plastic Bag Reduction** - Drop That Bag Initiative. Ryan reported that the Green Earth Club had great success selling re-usable shopping bags. Amy suggested that we collaborate with Wal-Mart, Shop Rite and WaWa to promote. Nancy suggested posting eye-catching reminders at the stores.
- Ideas: Barbara suggested that Shop Rite be encouraged to create a special “high speed lane” for people who use Reusable Bags. Dan suggested that we do a partnership with MainStreet to encourage plastic reduction on Bellevue to get the process started.
- Dan suggested that we think about going before Town Council to educate. One option is to have a bag-use ordinance introduced that would limit bag use.

- **Continue Green Drinks Series - Next one Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> 6-8pm on Egg Harbor City.** Amy reported the last one we a lot of fun and suggested doing another one in Egg Harbor City in partnership with the Galloway GC at the Avenue on Philadelphia Ave. Will try and take the NJ Transit Train to EHC.
- **Water Conservation Program** - Dan reported an Ordinance passed that will provide rebates to residents who purchase water-saving devices and appliances. Max rebate is a combined \$100 per household per year. Hammonton will dedicate up o \$10,000 for the first year. Hammonton submitted a Sustainable Jersey grant to fund the rebate program. The GC also committed to contributing up to \$1,500 in 2014.
  - Amy suggested that the GC could help with promotion of the Rebate program.
- **Develop Improvements for Web site and Social Media** - Sara commented that she will post the dates for GC activities. Amy suggested that we do a quarterly newsletter out to our contacts. Sara agreed.
- **Actively Recruit Friends and Community Partners-** We will reach out to Hammonton service organizations to get to know each other’s mission, members and projects with the intent of finding ways to partner to support each other’s work and to identify shared areas of interests. By hosting and participating in events, we hope to expand our “friends” and build our capacity
- **Other** – Linda recommended that Town of Hammonton work with NJ Transit to clean up and refurbish the Train Station.
- Dan and Ryan discussed the possibility of expanding the Sustainable Jersey program into the schools via the new SJ Schools program.
- Ryan & Gina suggested that we combine a 5k with the Green Day event. We will need to look into it. Ryan will look into it.
- **Up-Coming Events**
  - **Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>** 6-8pm- Green Drinks in EHC at the Avenue with Galloway GC
  - **Sunday March 9<sup>th</sup> (Tentative)** – Egg Harbor Road Clean-up
  - **Saturday March 29th** - Hammonton Lake Clean Up – meet at 9:30 at Canoe Club
  - **Sunday April 27-** 7 am – 4pm Earth Day at ACUA – we need volunteers !

**Next meeting: Monday, March 3, 2014, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor**  
**Conference room**