

City of Summit Environmental Commission Minutes, March 21, 2016

Present: Beth Lovejoy, Marjorie Fox, Judy Mandelbaum, John Kilby, Kelly Moughalian, Rick Bell
Green Team and Guests: Richard Sun, Jeff Hankinson, Anna Tinker, Susan Haig

Beth Lovejoy called the meeting to order at 8:03 PM.

Action items in red.

The February meeting minutes were approved.

Committee/Project Updates:

Earth Day Clean-Up, 2016: Beth Lovejoy

The company Kelly works for, Aarhus Karlshamn (AAK), has graciously funded several items for the Earth Day Clean-Up, including 2 water coolers, 2 "grabbers" to retrieve garbage from water, bags, and children's gloves. Thanks for their generosity.

For April 23, the site managers are: Ellen Purcell for Martin's Brook, Kelly for Briant Park, Marian for Passaic River Trails, and the PEP group will do Wilson Park. The PEP group comes with a number of adults so they do not need a separate manager. Beth will float between sites to take photos and provide any additional materials that might be needed.

Summit resident Matt Cohen is working on coordinating one or two other spots as well, possibly the Glenside field area and a small part of the proposed Parkline area. The Summit business Trillion will work on cleaning up the triangle area at Morris Ave. and Glenside Ave. in the morning on Thursday, April 21. **Matt has given Beth the information and she will make arrangements with Trillion.**

Marjorie and Ruth are running the Clean-Up at Hidden Valley on May 1 in the afternoon.

Marjorie will get information to the Interact Club at the high school about helping.

On Sunday, May 22, Judy has arranged for the temple group to work with Jeff Hankinson on various projects on the Passaic River trails. Judy and Jeff will finalize all the arrangements.

Home Energy Audits: Beth Lovejoy

Both Beth and Mayor Nora Radest have had home energy audits. Amy and Megan (Amy's intern) have been working with Ciel Power on the branding for a promotional campaign, and arranged for Hometowne TV and TAP to be at the mayor's audit. There will be a mailing about it to all City residents. Any Summit homeowner can sign up now for a \$49 home energy audit by going to <http://www.ciepower.com/summit/>.

Community Outreach: Beth Lovejoy, Susan Haig

Celgene contacted Beth about the EC having an educational table at its Earth Day events on its two campuses on April 21 and 22 between about 11 AM and 2 PM. **Patti Schneider Smith has agreed to attend with Beth. Marjorie may be able to help on Wednesday and John may be able to help on Thursday.** Beth has arranged for the EC to have an educational table at the June 12 Farmers Market. **Tentative volunteers for that are Marjorie, Ruth, Patti Schneider Smith and Linda Seelbach.** The EC has also been asked to host a table at the annual Community Night on Tuesday, July 26. **John and Kelly plan to attend with Beth.**

Anna Tinker from the Junior League reported on plans for the GoGreen event at the Transfer Station on May 1, 11 AM-2 PM. There will be a number of interactive tables educating on sustainability. Due to a number of conflicts, it is possible that no EC members can attend but Anna can set up a table with EC

information. Beth will provide the display board and handouts. Marjorie will also provide items for a recycling game. Beth will send Anna the name and contact email for the Rutgers rain garden people and Marjorie will reach out to the Summit community garden people.

Please save the date for WILD EARTH FEST at Watchung Reservation, April 24 from 11 to 5. It's the 75th anniversary of Trailside. Big cake.

Summit's Sustainable Future Forum will take place on March 30, beginning at 7 p.m., at Central Presbyterian Church. Educators, civic and business leaders, and students will exchange ideas, experience and best practices on vital issues of conservation and community culture. The free event is co-presented by CivicStory.org and the Summit GreenFaith Circle, hosted by Central Presbyterian Church, and sponsored by the Summit-New Providence Rotary Club, The Summit Area YMCA, and Family Promise. Refreshments will be served prior to the panel discussion at 6:30 p.m. Advance registration, requested by March 25, is required. Beth will be a member of the panel at the event.

Biking: Beth Lovejoy

The first group bike plan meeting took place on February 25 with representatives from the EC, City administration, engineering, public relations, Dept. of Community Programs, downtown businesses, Summit schools, and resident Ted Tolles. Ted facilitated the meeting during which the group discussed a vision for biking in Summit, obstacles to safe biking and ideas for overcoming obstacles and promoting a bike culture.

Ted and Beth met with a Summit High School teacher and student to discuss how to promote biking at the high school. Ted will follow up with them about potential projects.

A representative from the NJ Bike and Walk Coalition to made a presentation to Council on March 1 about the proposed bike depot.

Rick looked over the proposed goals and objectives and suggested balancing the categories so each has approximately the same number of items in them. He also suggested that the City could think about creating bike paths on the edges of City green spaces alongside sidewalks, which would not affect the width of streets. It was also suggested that it would also be helpful for promotional purposes to have some photos published of Council members riding their bikes.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Beth Lovejoy

Remaining Meeting dates for 2016:

All meetings will be held at 8 PM in the Whitman Room at City Hall.

4/18

5/16

6/20

No meetings in July and August

9/19

10/17

11/14 (second Monday due to conflicts)

12/12 (second Monday but better for most people)