

## **Green Team**

**\*Send emails in addition to posting in FB Group about events/volunteer days**

11/13/2023

### **Attendees:**

Alex

Chrissy

Mike (new member)

Jackie

Reed

Kevin American Legion

Denise

Hannah

Tommy

Christine

Rich

Peg

Greg

Ashley

Tracy

Michael C

Jen

Anthony (new member)

### **- Water Bottle Stations:**

- Greg: Signed purchase order, approved at board meeting Thursday - Water filling stations ORDERED!
  - Alex - two final locations confirmed: concession stand at Heritage Park (money for infrastructure installation already budgeted) and soccer facility on Pitney Rd. (soccer field water filling station will not be installed until 2024)
  - Tommy - budget set aside for installation for soccer field 2024
- Kevin - American legion -
  - The American Legion has sponsored the concerts in the park for the last several years. Kevin makes hamburgers, hot dogs , candy etc...guys are getting older and don't want to give up Sundays. Sunday concerts food profit opportunity. If we want to make burgers, he has a table top grill for our use. There used to be a fridge and freezer but it was removed by the legion. 7 Sundays, last Sunday in June until just before Labor Day. Realistically will need 3-6 volunteers per concert (2 people cooking, 2 people for 50-50); bare minimum is 3 people per Sunday. 50/50 is how they make money. Apply for a gaming license. **Decision needed before next meeting.**

- Misc: Need to arrive by 6:20pm, departure is normally around 9pm. We also talked about the need to monitor inventory, so working consecutive weeks makes sense.
- Rich suggested splitting up amongst groups in Absecon so each group works 1 or 2 or 3 concerts each.
- Alex: community garden.
  - Alex obtained rules and regulations for community garden that can be edited to fit our team. Needs to be built by April 2024 to ensure people can have their plots by May 2024. Nick LaRatonda recommended having city council sign off on garden parameters. Alex identified a company that offered to do labor free of charge: **Progressive rail and fence**.
  - Bed costs - corrugated metal 8x2x2 - measure to see how many beds fit in the allotted space. Wants weed mat, gravel, shells. Find out where the city is getting shells for other projects (**ask Lloyd**). We need a quote for all materials. Mulch or grass between garden beds? Alex would like to have a complete quote for all materials before we start building.
  - Solicit donations - type up letter that can be sent out to people/companies asking for donations and help. We think the total cost is going to be approx \$7K. Jen has already made up a letterhead for our group! Recommendation for Home Depot, AC Electric, AtlantiCare..etc.... We learned about a grant program from Home Depot Foundation.
  - The City will have to donate the land on which the community garden will sit to the Green Team; we have the site marked, and we think we need a walk through with Parks and Playgrounds committee members.
  - Rich: Once Steve or Pete approve, can move forward with the garden. **Walk through with Steve, and ask Steve Light to send one email to Council**. That should be all that is required.
  - Alex: Shore Magazine newspaper said they would put a plug for green team community garden
    - Ashley: offered to write letter for community plot and asking for donors : Absecon green team is looking for individuals
    - Denise: reaching out to AtlantiCare for donation
  - Alex: finalize ordinance before marketing community garden plots
  - Alex: looking for community garden coordinator - show people their plots, be point of contact, enforce rules. **Express interest by next meeting (we need a coordinator)**.
- Alex: need 2 more road cleanups before **April 20th 2024**
  - We got a \$100 mini-grant for one of our cleanups already!
  - Chrissy brought up the need for a trash can near laundromat at Rt 9 and NJ Ave: **send email to Tommy's city email**. There is a code enforcement committee. The idea is to make this committee similar to a community affairs group that will eventually be open to the public. We learned that the Chair of Public Works Committee oversees code enforcement.

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- Tommy: gave kudos to Green Team and Alex for spearheading efforts
- America Recycles Day Saturday at ACUA - Alex will receive check for road cleanup
- Alex: coin drop-
  - February 2024 during superbowl weekend - Saturday after groundhog's day. 3 hour window - use money for community garden - NJ and MILL. **February 10th.**
  - The American Legion will open up their restrooms for us!
  - We will need about 12 people for the day: 2 people per corner, plus some reserves. We will need a 3 hour commitment from everyone.
- Greg: school involvement - work in progress - essentially there will be a program with after school stars program to teach kids about sustainability. Alex will be the first person hired for this program. Depending on how many kids are involved, they may need more staff members. Green team program with school. At some point the program will be looking for more volunteers to maintain student:teacher ratios.

Outstanding:

- Collab with salty homesteaders for road clean up?
- lockers/shed for green team supplies?
- Rorie reached out to Melanie Lynch from GGG - plastic lumber for raised beds?
- Tracy will also reach out to Melanie

**OLD BUSINESS**

*Heritage Restoration*

*Continue meeting on Friday/Saturday mornings for invasive clean-up*

*US Fish and Wildlife Aide*

*Partnership (City needs to sign partners agreement to not modify/sell land)*

*Will provide Erosion control material/Plant material*

*Decide How to Use \$500*

*Used shed/storage area*

*Bike rack (Chrissy to look up prices)*

*Plant materials*

*Fence*

*Lockers*

*Raised bed materials*

*Decide and submit a PO to the city*

*12/31/23 Deadline*

*Meeting Day/Location Changes?*

*2nd Monday of each month at GSB co*

*Legion offered to host us too*

*Commit to Sustainable Jersey Program*  
*Need to start collecting points*  
*150pt goal*

*Promote AGT*  
*Individual member share on social media and with community groups*  
*Get local business involved on NJ Ave*