## Hope Township Environmental Committee & Green Team Meeting—Wednesday, March 15, 2023

**VIRTUAL ATTENDEES**: Claire Arcaro, Ellen Benoit, Margo Biblin, Sarah Hare, Robin Keggan, Lori Ostrzyzek, Phyllis Strohmeyer, Monica Sobon. Meeting began at 7:06

MINUTES: February 15 motioned M.Biblin, L.Ostrzyzek, approved yea 6, nay 0

### **DISCUSSION NOTES**

### **Appreciation Dinner**

- 225 Personalized Swedish cloths have been ordered and received, ready to distribute.
- Plastic tube squeezers will not be ordered

**ACTIONS** – For the dinner's printed take-away, write up the why for the Swedish cloths, and include Green Fair info; be ready to demo at dinner

 Reach out to Patti Whitmore to determine how we are to set up the cloths, or simply handout

#### **Clean Communities**

220 t-shirts and 20 Polo shirts are ordered from Swift Printing

**ACTIONS** – Schedule a street clean-up for the 55+ Club

- Identify specific model and order 10 grabbers, 20 yellow safety vests

### **Grants**

- \$2,500 for a video camera has been awarded; projector suggested as next grant request item
- Received \$5,000 grant to work on handling warehouse development in zoning; awaiting TC approval to proceed
- Rutgers rain garden team reexamining areas in town— school, retention basin at school, firehouse, municipal building, Swayze Mill Park, Swayze Cemetery, Centurylink building
- ANJEC \$1500 grant may work for lead-free fishing effort

ACTIONS - Help to ID specific video cameras that would work for Speaker Series

- Work through the ANJEC application for submittal before April 15

### Green Fair 2023

- Check out this website gift from Brian Kathenes: HopeGreenFair.org
- 220 seedlings have been designated for Hope's Green Fair by NJ State Forestry. Since this is less than the 450 requested, consider distributing 2 or 3 instead of 5 to each person

**ACTIONS** – Set up the Craft webpage

- Follow up on where to place Alpacas and the merchandise.
- Procure recycled bird house and bird feeder for green option raffle prize; work on the other 2 raffle prizes
- Follow up on the third possible food truck as Chef's or Donuts or maybe stop at 2
- Continue "filling up" the gym with exhibitors, and advertising

### **Swayze Mill Park Assessment**

 There is a need to identify and prioritize projects such as native plantings, removal of invasives, maintaining the gazebo, bird feeders, signs and ID funding sources for budgeting purposes

**ACTIONS** – Two assessment walks planned—March 17 at 4pm and March 24 at 5pm. T.Urfer, P.Strohmeyer, L.Ostrzyzek, E.Benoit, M. Biblin, M.Sobon will ID and Report

- Everyone walks SMP to ID and prioritize projects, such as the vandalized wildlife signs
- Check into possibility of and funding for trail cams (littering and gazebo vandalism), or at least have an "This park under surveillance" sign

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### National Wildlife Federation — Community Habitat Program "Hope for Wildlife":

- Continue working towards certification points and registered properties.
- **ACTIONS** Request everyone associated with EC-GT look into certifying their home property https://www.nwf.org/Garden-for-Wildlife/Certify \$20
  - Register SMP, Trout Alley, The Municipal Building, the School, Jenny Jump Park
  - Set up a display for the Green Fair to sign up residents to certify

### **Speaker Series**

 Watershed monitoring for road salt for ECs and GTs may be the set end of March, and there may be an ANJEC presentation

**ACTIONS** – Speak to Mary Stone regarding a May/June Presentation

- Speak with Sanico's Jack Powell about a "Recycling 101 Session".
- Check with Beekeeper Jenny Shotwell

# **Agricultural Development Board Application**

County Meeting to address application in April

**ACTIONS** – Be present on Thursday, April 20, 7:30 pm to present letter/exhibits.

# **Matarazzo Solar Farm Application**

— Discussed Tom Bodolsky's letter to improve landscaping requirements to retain rural charm.

**ACTIONS** – Become familiar with the application:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/19q6DTuY-Sf3EFG90iuyypMLtfaDK-TGI?usp=sharing.

## Conditional Use / Master Plan / Climate Resiliency as mandated by State

 Work through the Master Plan to determine what changes should be made to address flooding, stormwater management, mitigating impervious cover, development and climate resiliency

**ACTIONS** – Review the Introduction on google drive:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1VjaxvoVvjt6Zfok3UvqecTREZ 91QguG?usp=sharing

- Convert the next 3 sections of the Master Plan into word documents; set them up on google docs as collaborative files for review.
- Continue to liaise with Terry Urfer and the Planning Board to ensure the Master Plan and other Township documents align with each other and address climate resiliency.
- Follow up with the TC to complete the Resilience Base Worksheet
- Assess Township forest property potential; dump disposition

### **Lead-free Fishing Project**

Proceed to gather data regarding the creation of a program.

**ACTIONS** – Continue to research project and applicability to SMP, Fishing Derby May 27, signs at park, maybe a lead drop off bucket

- Set up a display at the Green Fair.
- Apply for ANJEC grant

**ADJOURNMENT:** at 9:04 PM. Motioned by M.Biblin, E.Benoit