

VIRTUAL ATTENDEES: Raymond Ayers, Ellen Benoit, Margo Biblin, Sarah Hare, Lori Ostrzyzek, Phyllis Strohmeyer, Claire Arcaro, Monica Sobon. Meeting began at 7:02

MINUTES: March 15 motioned M.Biblin, R.Ayers, approved yea 7, nay 0

DISCUSSION NOTES

Appreciation Dinner— Swedish cloths were successful

Clean Communities

- 220 t-shirts and 20 Polo shirts have been received, t-shirts can debut for Green Fair
- Some grabbers and vests have arrived

ACTIONS – Schedule a street clean-up for the 55+ Club after the Green Fair

Grants

- WC CHPP (County History Partnership Program) \$2,500 grant for a video camera awaiting final release to purchase; projector suggested as next CHPP grant request item
- Waiting for Planning Board to accept the \$5,000 grant to work on handling warehouse development in zoning
- Rutgers rain garden team refocusing on School with survey work done by the Rutgers team and architect drawings provided by the school to the Rutgers team to ID drain locations
- ANJEC \$1500 application has been submitted for a Lead-free fishing tackle initiative

ACTIONS – Check into the feasibility of a highlands person, such as Ben Spinelli speaking to the Planning Board

– Watch for next grant potential, such as CHPP \$1,500, and others

Green Fair 2023

- Tree seedlings will be distributed up to 3 per person instead of the usual 5
- Holding to 2 food trucks, Humpty Jr. and Tacos Chicas
- Consider placing the shredding and Abilities vehicles at the exit end of the parking lot instead of the back
- Recommend outside tents for animals
- Twine will be another give-away
- Raffle off each gift card separately, more raffles, more possibilities

ACTIONS – Create flyer for and have it at Hope School to send home

– Complete the floor plan for all the activities

– Meet on Monday at 3pm at the Community Center to paint signs

– Continue to track and confirm all activities

– Send out instructions letter to all exhibitors

Lead-Free Fishing Project

- Waiting to hear about the ANJEC \$1500 grant, while considering options for the Fishing Derby, June 3

ACTIONS – Initiate a display for the Green Fair

National Wildlife Federation — Community Habitat Program “Hope for Wildlife”:

- Continue working towards certification points and registered properties. Phyllis has registered Jenny Jump. Allamuchy created and donated a NWF display board for the Hope GF

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
- Add a QR code at Green Fair display for visitors to certify online

Swayze Mill Park Assessment

- The EC-GT assessment was the basis of a recommendations letter to the Township Committee on March 20, 2023. The area below the gazebo and to the poplar tree has been cleared of all invasives by the Hope DPW.

ACTIONS – Check into possibility of and funding for trail cams (littering and gazebo vandalism), or at least have a “This park under surveillance” sign

Agricultural Development Board Application

- 525 slaughter application postponed from the April 20 meeting

ACTIONS – Be present on Thursday, June 15, 7:30 pm to present letter/exhibits.

ANJEC Great Waters Resolution

- Agreement to present a Great Waters Resolution to the Township Committee for Approval

ACTIONS – Personalize and prepare the sample resolution

- Attend the April 26 Township Committee meeting to present resolution

Neighborhood Plant Exchange—

- There will be no advertising of the Plant Exchange at the Green Fair.

ACTIONS – Start up the Exchange with a post on Hope Goings on Facebook page to request all unwanted Easter plants

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE EC-GT IS A SPECIAL GREEN FAIR PREP ONE on Tuesday, April 25 in the Community Center at 7pm.

- Signs will be completed and given out to be posted
- New t-shirts will be available for pickup
- If you have a large number of items for GF set-up, you can stage them at the Community Center

ADJOURNMENT: at 8:48 PM. Motioned by R.Ayers, E.Benoit