

ATTENDEES: EC: Ellen Benoit, Margo Biblin, Sarah Hare, Lori Ostrzyzek, Monica Sobon.
GF Attendees: Elsie Donohue, Bonnie Eamigh, Carol Kernoschak, Tim McDonough, Audrey Planer, Ann Rhinesmith. Informal Discussions began at 6pm, Official meeting at 7:19pm

MINUTES: April 19 minutes motioned M.Biblin, E.Benoit, approved yea 5, nay 0

DISCUSSION NOTES

Green Fair— Reviewed surveys, notes, brand, next date possibilities

- All in attendance supported scheduling “Go Green with Hope” Green Fair 2024, keeping 2023 activities including Craft Market and Townwide Yard Sale, for April 27, the 4th Saturday in April
- Recommendations include:
 - All name tags and exhibitor packages to be completed at least one day before the event
 - Consider scheduling talks/presentations of about 20-30 minutes each in one of the classrooms during the event; e.g., bee-keeping, tree-seedling care, native plants, The Raptor Trust, Native American perspectives, 4-H; possibly draw from Speaker Series possibilities

- ACTIONS** – Submit a facilities request form to the school as soon as it is feasible - Lori
- School subcommittee will connect with Hope School teachers before the end of the year; consider other schools, student connections in the area. Sarah and Lori
 - Ann Rhinesmith will reach out to Rutgers 4-H

Trex Bench Plastic Collection

- **The latest drive has achieved its 500lb goal coming in at 504lbs**

- ACTIONS** – Order green bench
- Discuss possibility of another drive at the next meeting

Clean Communities

- ACTION** – Set up a street clean up for Friday, June 9 at 10:30am

Grants

- WC CHPP (County History Partnership Program) \$2,500 grant for a video camera awaiting final release to purchase; projector or computer suggested as next CHPP grant request item
- **Rutgers rain garden team has presented their rain garden proposal for the school, locating on the grassy area between the gym and the parking lot. Pending approval at the May 25th Board of Ed meeting, work can begin the week of June 26**
- **\$1500 grant application to ANJEC for a Lead-free fishing tackle initiative has been denied.**

- ACTIONS** – Support the approval of the \$5,000 warehouse/master plan grant at the next Planning Board, Monday, June 5, 7pm
- Check into current Sustainable Jersey Grant Opportunity due June 29

Lead-Free Fishing Project

- Continue to develop this initiative without ANJEC support
- ACTION** – Bring display and alternative examples to the fishing derby

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

- Work continues 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
- Bring the NWF-CHP initiative to the Township picnic
 - Register SMP, Trout Alley, The Municipal Building, the School

Swayze Mill Park Assessment

- The 2 brush piles at the newly cleared area below the gazebo out to the poplar will be cleared by DPW.

ACTIONS – Plant native wildflower seeds in the gazebo-poplar area

- 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

ACTION – Attend the May 24 Township Committee meeting to present resolution, including 2019 survey, and the Great Waters assessment report

Rain Barrel for the Community Center

ACTION – Check local and online possibilities for a model aesthetically appropriate for the Community Center, possibly encased in wood.

Village Block Party, Saturday, May 20, noon to 4pm, Community Center

ACTION – We are looking for more books to offer to the attendees.

CFSD Warehouse/Traffic Info Update, Sunday, May 21, 2pm, Community Center

ACTION – Attend to be informed

Hope Day 2023 Picnic, Saturday, September 9, 1-5pm

- The application requesting the NJDEP Mobile Education Trailer for September 9, 2023 was denied. “We will not be able to attend your event in September with the Mobile Education Trailer. Thank you for the invitation. “ And subsequently, “It isn’t feasible at this time.” .

ADJOURNMENT: at 8:08 PM. Motioned by M.Biblin, E.Benoit; approved yea 5, nay 0