

Sustainable Audubon Meeting Summary for May 3, 2023

Attendees: Aimee Bentley (AB); Cheryl Hauske (CH); Rob Jakubowski (RJ); Jeanne Mugler (JM); Elizabeth Quinn (EQ); Renee Richards (RR); Terry Sugihara (TS)

1. TS/CH - Paper Shredding Event and Electronic Waste Recycling Event is scheduled for Saturday, October 14, 2023 from 9 to 12 in cooperation with Haddon Heights. CH to coordinate with Magnum Recycling regarding the E-waste related details.
2. TS/JM - Rain Garden and Butterfly/Pollinator Garden Audubon Day update:
 - a. Sustainable Audubon (SA) participated in Audubon Day (April 29th) and the event was successful despite the threatening weather. Rain barrel and brochure holder installations were completed prior to Audubon Day as well as garden preparations. Thanks to AB, Ann Gillespie (AG), Bob Mugler (BM), JM, EQ, RR, and TS for their efforts.
 - b. Fencing the butterfly/pollinator garden was discussed. A perimeter fence (3 foot chicken wire) to be installed around butterfly/pollinator garden with an opening in the front facing the Shed to be considered.
 - c. Butterfly/pollinator plant list discussed. Choke berry, butterfly weed, and Liatris to be purchased by AB using Sustainable Audubon (SA) funds. Coreopsis to be donated by EQ. Joe pye weed to be donated by AB. Goldenrod to be transplanted from Green Wave Park rain garden. Bee balm plants to be purchased by SA via CH plant sale. Common milkweed to be raised from seed by AB or purchased.
 - d. Butterfly/pollinator garden plant design (done by AB) will have a height-based focus but be asymmetrical with respect to plant species.
 - e. Planting of butterfly/pollinator garden to be done on Thursday, June 1, 2023 at 6:00 pm.
 - f. Moving mulch from Shed to Green Wave Park to be done using AB truck at a to-be-determined time. Coordination with Department of Public Works (DPW) on access during the business day needed due to probable use of DPW yard gates.
3. Salem Oak sign was installed and looks good.
4. AB/EQ - Shade Tree program update
 - a. Site assessments were done by AB and EQ and 21 locations were approved. Locations for additional trees at the Monkey Island site will be established by AB.
 - b. AB reached out to Miranda at NJ Trees Foundation regarding funding. Currently no funding is available but it will be sought. However, the timeline is unclear.
 - c. AB will continue to pursue the other funding opportunities.

5. TS - Trex bench/plastic recycling update – No new information on the amount of plastic recycled is available at the present time. JM to clarify the actual contribution by SA that the Oaklyn Green Team documented.
6. CH - Sustainable Audubon Flower and Vegetable Sale – 60 orders received with pick up scheduled for Friday, May 12, 2023. Plant sale organization to start at 8:00 at 220 Pine Street. Pick up follows. Potential volunteers are CH, AG, and JM.
7. JM - Lorax kids (4th grade and under) program went well with 35 adults and kids estimated to view the Lorax movie on April 20, 2023 at the Audubon Senior Center.
8. JM/SP – A native plant and pollinator presentation (“How to Create a Backyard Habitat for Monarch Butterflies”) by the Camden County Certified Gardeners was held on April 19, 2023 at the Audubon Senior Citizen Center and was very well attended and received. Post meeting note: A message of thanks should be sent to the Camden County Certified Gardeners.
9. RJ/TS - Community Energy Plan (CEP) update – Second meeting was held. Potential changes to the approach for developing a community energy plan were briefly discussed. RJ to contact Vlad Odarchenko (VO), the Act Engineers consultant, regarding this.
10. TS/RJ - Sustainable Jersey and PSE&G Energy Efficiency Initiative Program (SJ-PSE&G EEIP) effort status:
 - a. Grant application for \$2,500 was approved.
 - b. The program and the potential use of the funding was discussed.
 - c. Kickoff and coordination meetings are being scheduled by SJ-PSE&G.
11. TS - Walmart Community Grant effort status - An educational partner was not obtained to apply for the community grant. Pursuit of this grant has been suspended for now to prioritize other commitments.
12. AB - Haviland Avenue School Monarch Butterfly event for May 5th is scheduled. Potential volunteers are AB, AG, and RR.
13. Old business/New business:
 - a. Volunteers sought to help replant the Greater Audubon Business Association (GABA) urns on Merchant Street starting at 11:00 on May 12th. Potential volunteers are CH, EQ, AG, and RR.

- b. RJ in discussions with adjacent towns about potential electric vehicle charge station plans.
14. The date of the next meeting is 7:00 Wednesday, June 7, 2023 at the Audubon Senior Citizen Center.
15. To do:
- a. CH to coordinate with John Martorano, Jr. of Magnum Recycling regarding E-waste event.
 - b. TS to install fence posts at butterfly/pollinator garden prior to June 1, 2023.
 - c. ALL: Supply plants for butterfly/pollinator garden for June 1 planting. AB to obtain the majority of the plants needed.
 - d. ALL: Volunteers requested to do butterfly/pollinator garden planting
 - e. TS to complete fencing at butterfly/pollinator garden.
 - f. AB to determine date to move mulch and then TS will coordinate access with DPW.
 - g. AB to finalize potential Monkey Island shade tree locations
 - h. AB to update SA at the next meeting on Shade Tree Program funding status.
 - i. JM to coordinate with Oaklyn Green Team (Liane) on plastic recycling.
 - j. CH to report to group on flower/plant sale.
 - k. SP - please send a thank you email to the Camden County Certified Gardeners for presenting.
 - l. RJ to discuss potential approach change with VO.
 - m. TS to report to group on developments from the upcoming meetings related to SJ-PSE&G grant.
 - n. AB to report to group on Haviland Avenue School event.
 - o. CH to report to group on GABA planting.