

Green Team Meeting

August 20, 2020

5:00 P.M.

- The meeting took place in Driscoll Park – 565 Locust Avenue, Washington, PA 15301

Attendees: Bracken Burns (Supervisor), Assistant to the Township Manager Patrick Conners, Township Intern Renna Wrubleski, Colleen Johnson, Penny Steggles, and Janie Deemer.

Topics of Discussion

- Update Regarding Aiden McCoy's Eagle Scout Project

- Assistant to the Township Manager Conners began discussion by highlighting that he had met with Aiden and Karen McCoy to discuss Aiden's pursuit of an Eagle Scout certification. He distributed an informational packet to members of the Green Team which outlined the Eagle Scout Project process for beneficiaries (i.e. the Township). He noted the location of the proposed sign would be on the property of CFS Bank (730 E. Beau Street). He distributed photos and a letter granting Aiden & the Township permission to erect a sign by the property owner. He noted Aiden had budgeted a financial contribution of approximately \$500 from the Township for the construction of a welcome sign. A discussion regarding the sign design ensued. Township Supervisor Burns expressed his desire to see a rustic sign, similar to that of North Strabane Township. Ms. Deemer expressed her concerns of the Township setting a precedent of financial assistance for future Eagle Scout projects. Ms. Steggles noted that Aiden may consult Mr. John Husk, a South Strabane resident and Trinity School District Industrial Arts teacher to assist in the construction of a wooden welcome sign. After some further discussion Assistant to the Township Manager Conners stated that he would relay the Green Team's thoughts to Aiden.

- Residential Recycling Audit

- Assistant to the Township Manager Conners stated that the Code Enforcement Department had conducted a recycling audit of the Township's most dense residential neighborhoods in order to gauge public participation in the curbside program during the August 3rd pick-up date. He reported that a total of 1,122 households were audited with 490 (43%) participating in the curbside recycling program and 632 (56%) not appearing to participate on that day. A discussion ensued regarding boosting participation in the curbside recycling program. Township Supervisor Burns noted the program is mandatory for all residents per the Act 101 state requirement. Ms. Steggles recommended using the Township's Tax Collector as an agent to relay informational materials, including the recycling calendar. Assistant to the Township Manager Conners noted that Waste Management sends yearly calendars to all residents. He also noted Waste Management's resident list had been updated after a regional audit this Spring. A discussion ensued regarding residential notification of past due invoices.

- Township Supervisor Burns expressed his interest to see an expanded residential data base which includes names in addition to addresses. He noted the Township Tax Collector would be a useful resource to create such a database.
- Ms. Steggles expressed her desire to relaunch a welcome packet to new residents. She noted coupons to local businesses could be included. A discussion ensued regarding content for the welcome packet. Assistant to the Township Manager Connors highlighted that much of the desired content is already included within the recent PRINT Municipal Directory.
- **Roadside Cleanup Event – September 12, 2020**
 - Ms. Janie Deemer inquired regarding the Washington County Community Services Program which includes assistance for litter pickup. Assistant to the Township Manager Connors highlighted the Township had been provided with a date of October 24, 2020. He noted the date was set prior to the COVID-19 Pandemic. He stated he would reach out to the County to confirm the Township was still on the schedule.
 - Assistant to the Township Manager Connors reported that the Green Team had selected a date of September 12, 2020 to conduct a cleanup event along Fischer Road. He highlighted that he would be working with the Police and Public Works Departments to prepare for the date. He noted that as the date drew nearer he would relay information to the Green Team and other volunteers.
- **Closing Thoughts**
 - Assistant to the Township Manager Connors read aloud a draft of a letter to residents from the Board of Supervisors concerning the Township's Recycling Program. The Green Team offered various comments regarding its content.
 - Township Supervisor Burns stated that he would like to formally thank those participating in the Township's glass recycling program. He stated a sign should be erected thanking users. He also expressed a desire to capture the contact information for users in order to build a data base of potential volunteers for events. He noted that participants could be invited to future Green Team meetings. Assistant to the Township Manager Connors highlighted that Community Relations Intern Renna Wrubleski had developed numerous tools to engage the public for a community programming survey. He stated that a similar process could be implemented to gather user information.
 - Ms. Colleen Johnson highlighted that local juniors and seniors in the Trinity School District need to fulfill a certain amount of community service hours in order to graduate. She highlighted the Township could work with the students to help them meet the requirement.
 - Ms. Deemer stated that she has numerous wild flowers and seeds that she could provide the Township.
 - Community Relations Intern Renna Wrubleski stated that her last day working for the Township will be Friday, August 21st. She briefly discussed her projects. The Green Team thanked Ms. Wrubleski for her contributions.

Adjournment: 6:20 p.m.