

## **Green Team Meeting**

**November 19, 2020**

**5:00 P.M.**

- The meeting took place at the South Strabane Municipal Building – 550 Washington Road, Washington, PA 15301

Attendees: Bracken Burns (Supervisor), Assistant to the Township Manager Patrick Conners, Mark McCurdy, Colleen Johnson, Mary Helicke, Kathy Pienkowski, Penny Steggles, and Janie Deemer.

Also in Attendance: Karen & Aiden McCoy

### Topics of Discussion

#### **- Update Regarding Aiden McCoy's Eagle Scout Project**

- Aiden McCoy began the discussion by highlighting that he had received authorization for his Eagle Scout project through the local chapter of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA). He reported that he had procured four new renditions for potential welcome signage which would be placed along E. Beau Street on the property of CFS Bank. He stated that he would also be working to solicit donations for wood/postings for the sign as well as landscaping materials for the beautification efforts. Assistant to the Township Manager Conners noted that the Township Public Works Department would be assisting Aiden and his Troop with installation of the sign posts.
- A discussion regarding the sign renderings ensued. After a question from Ms. Deemer, Aiden confirmed the proposed signage would be one-sided. Ms. Deemer noted the abundance of signage near CFS Bank and along E. Beau Street. She also expressed her apprehension with the Township contributing financially for the project highlighting that a precedent could be set and others could request funding for similar projects. Mr. Burns commended Aiden on his endeavor thus far. He stated that while members of the Board of Supervisors expressed their approval for the project, a final contribution amount was not set. He noted that Aiden may want to seek some financial assistance from community stakeholders and local businesses, highlighting that the Township could assist in securing any outstanding funds.
- Mr. McCurdy congratulated Aiden on his progress, highlighting the value in soliciting sign designs and donations for materials. He noted that raising funds could also prove to be a valuable experience. A discussion ensued regarding allowing businesses to advertise on the reverse side of the welcome sign for a donation/fee. Ms. Pienkowski thanked Aiden for his efforts and then highlighted a recent Eagle Scout project conducted on behalf of the Citizen's Library
- After further discussion, the Green Team came to a consensus regarding the size, style, and design for the welcome sign. Aiden stated that he would finalize the

requests made on behalf of the Green Team and continue to secure donations for the project.

- **Beautification Awards**

- Mr. Burns briefly summarized the previous discussions regarding a beautification award system to recognize commercial and residential properties throughout the Township, citing his experience with a similar endeavor at the County level. Ms. Johnson expressed her support for the project noting that it would be a great way to spread positivity through the community. She also noted the associated activities are a great way to remain safe during the current pandemic. A discussion regarding the project's timeline ensued. Members of the Green Team came to a consensus that the program should be advertised throughout the spring of 2021 with the actual nomination and voting taking place throughout the month of July.
- Mr. Burns stated the program could be advertised through the Township's website, Facebook page, and through civic organizations such as the Martha Washington Garden Club and the Citizens Library. Ms. Pienkowski affirmed that the Library could promote the program. Mr. Burns directed Staff to place a formal request for the Program on the upcoming Agenda for the Board of Supervisors to consider during their November meeting.

- **Open Burning Update**

- Assistant to the Township Manager Connors stated the Board of Supervisors would be considering a proposed residential burning ban during their November 24<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting. He noted that burning organic materials (i.e. grass, leaves, brush, etc.) would be considered a public nuisance and would be prohibited outside of agricultural operations. He highlighted that common campfires and fire pits would be exempt from this ordinance. He concluded by inviting interested members of the Green Team to attend the meeting to express their support for the proposed Ordinance.
- Ms. Helicke inquired regarding the fine structure for the Ordinance. Assistant to the Township Manager Connors stated that he would need to look further into the matter.

- **Composting & Cardboard Recycling**

- Mr. Burns noted his desire to see additional signage for the Township's Recycle Center. Ms. Helicke expressed her desire to see an aluminum drop off area at the Township's Recycle Center. Assistant to the Township Manager stated that Staff would build a plan to incorporate both requests.
- Assistant to the Township Manager Connors stated that at the request of numerous residents and the Green Team he had begun the process of identifying solutions for a Township cardboard compactor system. He highlighted a similar program which Peter's Township had recently implemented. He outlined preliminary monetary figures noting that there would likely be legacy costs related to transportation of the collected materials. He reported the purchase of the equipment could be done through the Act 101 Section 902 Recycling Grants. A brief discussion regarding the parameters of the program, including the requirement of a total open burning ban ensued.

- **Washington County Community Service Litter Pickup**

- Assistant to the Township Manager Connors stated the Washington County Community Service Program had conducted litter pickup along Manifold Road on November 7<sup>th</sup>. He also reported that the program has scheduled the Township for another event on October 23, 2021. Mr. Burns requested staff send the organization a

formal thank you correspondence. He then requested that Staff look into the Furlough into Service (FITS) Program.

- **Future Meetings**

- After a brief discussion regarding the pandemic and stay-at-home advisories, the Green Team agreed to conduct future meetings remotely over Zoom on the third Thursday of every month at 5:00 p.m.

**Adjournment: 6:00 p.m.**