

Green Team Meeting

October 15, 2020

5:00 P.M.

- The meeting took place in Community Park – 750 Floral Hill Drive, Washington, PA 15301

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

Topics of Discussion

- Update Regarding Aiden McCoy's Eagle Scout Project

- Assistant to the Township Manager Conners stated that Aiden McCoy was unavailable to attend the Green Team meeting due to a prior commitment. He reported that Aiden had received approval for the Welcome Sign Project through the local Eagle Scout Board. He highlighted that Aiden had also provided numerous sign examples which were included in the survey relayed to members of the Green Team.
- Members of the Green Team briefly discussed and selected four sign designs included in the aforementioned survey. Assistant to the Township Manager Conners stated he would relay the selected designs to Aiden so that he could gather South Strabane specific quotes and designs.

- Beautification Awards

- Mr. Burns discussed his vision of an award which would recognize residential and commercial properties that demonstrate beautification efforts and “green” practices. He briefly discussed his experience developing a similar project for Washington County. He highlighted the Township could spread word of the program through a newsletter, the Observer-Reporter, the Township’s website, and through social media.
 - The group continued the discussion by considering the establishment of a formal nominating/voting committee, voting deadlines, and voting procedures.
 - Mr. McCurdy noted his support for the program noting the positivity which it could bring to the community.
 - Ms. Johnson highlighted the importance of establishing categories which would encourage a wider range of participants.
 - Mr. Burns noted the Program could launch in the spring of 2021. He continued by noting that a plaque could be given to winners. Assistant to the Township Manager Conners noted the success of partnering with local businesses such as Tanger Outlets and Stimmell’s Green House to procure donations for awards. The group expressed universal support for the further development of the program.

- Open Burning Update

- Assistant to the Township Manager Conners stated that Staff is continuing to develop an updated Open Burning Ordinance for the Board of Supervisors to consider. He

noted the considerations and comments from the Green Team will be integrated into the legislation. He concluded by stating he would update the Green Team as progress is made.

- **2021 Projects**

- Assistant to the Township Manager Connors inquired regarding ideas, projects, and infrastructure that the Green Team would like to see implemented in 2021. He noted that Staff is developing the Budget for the upcoming year and highlighted that revenues generated through the Act 101 Recycling Performance Grant will be directly reinvested into sustainable programming.
 - Mr. McCurdy expressed his desire to see increased “green” education for children in the Township. He noted the Township could partner with local schools. He also stated the Green Team could create a video outlining the proper way to recycle.
 - Ms. Zipko noted the importance of educating all residents citing the increasingly complex practice of recycling.
 - Ms. Johnson stated the Township should craft a correspondence to Waste Management outlining the various problems faced by the Township as well as noting the common complaints levied by residents.
 - Mr. McCurdy highlighted the correspondence would be more effective if co-signed by local legislators.
 - Mr. Burns asked Staff to develop a bullet point list of concerns and potential improvements for the Green Team’s review at an upcoming meeting.
 - Mr. Bruns also noted his desire to see a large sign for the Recycling Center citing the location’s remoteness. He highlighted that more attention needs brought to the facilities.

- **Recycling Acknowledgement**

- As requested during the last meeting, Assistant to the Township Manager Connors provided the Green Team with a flyer to review which thanks and recognizes users of the Recycle Center.
 - Mr. Burns noted the flyer should be placed in the informational “bird boxes” located in the Township’s parks. He also expressed his support for the creation of a sign-up list to be placed at the Recycle Center. He noted the list/vessel could serve as a facilitator for gathering resident contact information for the Township. Assistant to the Township Manager Connors stated he would develop a solution.
- Ms. Zipko inquired regarding usage of Community Park citing the impacts of numerous vehicles from organizations such as the JFK cross country team. A discussion ensued.

Adjournment: 6:00 p.m.