

Green Team Meeting

August 19, 2021

5:00 P.M.

Attendees: Bracken Burns, Chair, Janie Deemer, Colleen Johnson, Mark McCurdy, Penny Steggles, Township Manager Brandon Stanick, Assistant to the Township Manager Jim Sutter

Also in Attendance: Barry Johnson

Topics of Discussion

- Litter Pickup Event

- The litter pickup event on Berry Road from the previous Saturday was discussed. It was the consensus of those who had participated there was much less litter than the previous time a pickup event was held on the road. Despite being two hours scheduled for the event, it was completed in about an hour.
- Ms. Johnson asked if there had been a police presence to assist with the event. Additionally, she stated her belief it would not be safe without the road being closed. Mr. Burns stated the road wasn't closed, but there were two police cars following with their lights on to alert approaching motorists.
- A discussion ensued on the location for the next litter pickup event. Mr. Johnson suggested Manifold Road from the Piatt Building to the light at Route 19. He emphasized that given the lack of space on the side of the road to avoid cars, it would need to be closed down if they decided to choose this location. A discussion ensued on the date and time for the next event. It was eventually decided that it should take place on Saturday, September 19, 2021 from 9 to 11 a.m.

- Property Beautification Awards

- A packet containing the full slate of nominees for the Property Beautification Awards was presented to the members. Overall, there were 20 residential, 2 agricultural, and 2 commercial properties nominated. A discussion ensued regarding coordinating with the Martha Washington Garden Club to determine the winners and process. Ms. Steggles stated that she would supply the contact information to staff.
- Mr. Burns asked if the group felt they should have 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes. Ms. Johnson inquired on what the prize will be. Mr. Burns stated that this was still to be determined, but that ideas that had been suggested included a banner in the yard and/or a certificate presented at a Board of Supervisors' meeting. The consensus of the group was that this form of recognition would be appropriate and that there should be some form of recognition for all of the nominees.
- Further discussion ensued on the potential forms of recognition for the nominees and winners. The possibility of placing banners in the yards of the winners received serious consideration. It was decided that staff should look into who could make the banners with preference being given to a local company. Ms. Johnson also suggested reaching out to Mr. Stimmel of Stimmels Florists and Greenhouse about donating a gift card to the winner(s). Ms. Steggles then stated that the Martha Washington Garden Club should receive some form of recognition as well.

- **Recycling**

- Mr. Burns brought to the attention of the group the issue of increasing compliance with recycling requirements by commercial entities in the Township. He stated his desire to see communication from the Township directly to businesses to inform them that it is a requirement to recycle. Township Manager Stanick then gave an overview of past activities regarding this initiative.
- Mr. McCurdy suggested making this part of the annual fire inspection, noting that after one year every business will have been contacted. Mr. McCurdy asked what the consequence for noncompliance and the enforcement mechanism for this would be. Mr. Burns stated that it would need to be enforced by the Township. He stated that there should be a policy for staff to fall back on, suggesting that an ordinance be adopted for the Code. Ms. Johnson stated that the Township needs policies to be taken seriously. Ms. Steggles brought up the past concern over the local schools recycling. Mr. Burns stated that this type of policy could include them.
- The discussion shifted to residential recycling at this time. Mr. Burns asked if the Act 101 letter in the recent newsletter led to an increase in recycling bin requests at the Municipal Building. Mr. Stanick reported there was a slight uptick in residents getting recycling containers. A discussion ensued on different strategies for enforcing the state law and overall increasing recycling in the Township. These included obtaining a cardboard dumpster and reaching out to Waste Management about placing it at the dump.

Adjournment: 6:04 p.m.