

Green Team Meeting

July 15, 2020

5:00 P.M.

- The meeting took place in Billy Bell Park – 100 Manse Street, Washington, PA 15301

Attendees: Bracken Burns (Supervisor), Rich Luketich (Supervisor), Assistant to the Township Manager Patrick Conners, Township Intern Renna Wrubleski, Colleen Johnson, Penny Steggles, Mary Helicke, Riley Moore, Laynee Zipko, Janie Deemer, and Mark McCurdy

Topics of Discussion

- Introduction of Riley Moore

- Assistant to the Township Manager Conners introduced Ms. Riley Moore to members of the Green Team. Ms. Moore highlighted that she is an undergraduate student at Duquesne University studying Environmental Law. She cited her passion for the environment and highlighted her enthusiasm for contributing to the group.

- Update regarding Eagle Scout Project

- Assistant to the Township Manager Conners read aloud a correspondence from Aiden McCoy outlining his request for financial assistance from the Township for his Eagle Scout Project. He stated Aiden had secured permission from Charleroi Federal Bank (located along East Beau Street) to place a “welcome” sign on their property. He stated he would continue to update the Green Team on the status of the project moving forward.

- Community Park Beautification Update

- Assistant to the Township Manager Conners provided the Green Team with an update on the prior meeting’s discussion regarding Community Park.
 - He reported the birdhouses along the walking trail (which had fallen into disrepair) had been removed. He highlighted the Green Team may want to recommend/formulate a plan of action to replace them moving forward. Mr. Luketich stated the Township could solicit a donation for materials (i.e. lumber, glue, etc.). from local businesses. Mr. Burns recommended Aiden McCoy reach out to his local Boy Scout Troop to gauge interest in the project. Ms. Deemer highlighted that she could provide multiple birdhouses which she received from the PA Game Commission.
 - Assistant to the Township Manager Conners next discussed the removal of brush and junk trees along the walking trail. He stated the Public Works Department would develop a strategy to begin cleanup operations during the fall/spring months when growth is at a low point.
 - Next, Assistant to the Township Manager Conners discussed the proposal to plant wildflowers along the Community Park walking trail. He highlighted the Public Works Department would be working to develop a planting strategy (genius, location, etc.) for the Spring of 2021. Ms. Steggles noted that Stimmel’s Greenhouse would likely donate plants/flowers to the

Township. Ms. Deemer stated perennial flowers may be the best choice and would require the least amount of maintenance. Mr. Luketich recommended planting the flowers around the Park's border. Mr. Burns noted the Township could consult a "flower expert" to select the optimal species and location in the Park. Ms. Steggles noted the Martha Washington Garden Club may be a useful resource.

- Lastly, Assistant to the Township Manager Connors discussed the possibility of an Arboretum concept for Community Park. He noted at the request of Mr. Burns Township Staff had been in communication with Range Resources to gauge interest in the development of an arboretum/shade tree planting partnership. He noted this partnership could be a direct replacement for the forestry management project that was proposed along the William Munce Well Pad. He stated that he would keep the Green Team informed on any future developments in the discussion.

- **New Glass Dumpster**

- Assistant to the Township Manager Connors stated that the glass dumpster previously located behind the Municipal Building (550 Washington Road) had been replaced with a larger vessel and relocated to the Township's recycling facility located at 253 Zediker Station Road. He noted that all recyclable materials (i.e. cardboard, paper, brush, leaves, glass, etc.) would be available to be recycled on the site. He noted that only glass and yard waste can be recycled currently. He stated that he would keep the Green Team updated on when the Recycle Center is fully operational for additional materials.

- **Billy Bell Park Tour**

- Attending members of the Green Team proceeded to walk the Park's walking trail to discuss Billy Bell Park. Assistant to the Township Manager Connors highlighted many of the Park's amenities including exercise stations.

- **Introduction of Renna Wrubleski**

- At the conclusion of the walk, Ms. Renna Wrubleski introduced herself to the Green Team, noting that she would be interning with the Township through the month of August. She highlighted her main project involves interacting and engaging residents in effort to establish a community programming plan for 2021 and beyond. She discussed recently developed content which was distributed on the Township's Facebook page and website. She concluded by inviting members of the Green Team to participate in an engagement survey which would be launched through the Township's Facebook Page.

- **Additional thoughts**

- Ms. Deemer inquired regarding the dumping along Zediker Station Road. Assistant to the Township Manager Connors noted that Staff has attempted to communicate the property owner (CNX Energy) but has not received any further word on the matter.
- Ms. Deemer inquired regarding enforcement measures to reprimand businesses and residents who do not recycle. Assistant to the Township Manager Connors

highlighted that commercial participation has increased year over year from '18 – '19, noting that reported tonnage increased by 169%. Mr. Burns expressed his desire to see a formal recycling policy enacted by the Township. He stated the current fire inspection process could integrate recycling compliance checks. Assistant to the Township Manager Conners stated he would work to develop a draft proposal for the August Board of Supervisors meeting.

- **Selection of Summer Litter pickup event**

- After some discussion the Green Team agreed to conduct a litter pickup event on September 12th along Fischer Road or another Road identified by the Public Works Supervisor.

Adjournment: 6:25 p.m.