

Green Team Meeting Minutes May 17, 2023

Attendees: Linda Frame, Jennifer Pawley, Dennis Strawn, Quenton King, Stephanie Hysmith, Councilmember Pepper, and Rowan Zoeller.

Quenton called the meeting to order at 12:03. No quorum.

New Business

Review and discussion of draft recommendations to the Mayor as well as Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant document (\$77,000 grant) and climate reduction and resiliency plan. Linda, Quenton, and Patti presented the recommendations to Mayor Goodwin on May 17, 2023. Discussed hiring a consultant to help us develop our plan. Mayor suggested the Green Team make a quarterly presentation to City Council. Dennis suggested the City can hire a grant writer with federal money from the IRA bill and that Green Team is supposed to create a plan for how to go after the grant money.

City submitted pre-award letter for \$77K grant and Green Team will need to come up with a plan on how to spend it. Once submitted, funds arrive in 2 months. Money could be used to hire consultant for Green Team. Jennifer asked about if we could use the \$250K in Green Team funds instead. Dennis suggested we only pursue one or two things out of the EECBG. Quenton suggested we create a subcommittee to advance this grant and to start inviting people to our meetings to educate us. Jennifer has a contact who might help the City apply for grants. Quenton noted that we have six months to prepare for the grant. Energy Management Solutions and Jody McDevitt were suggested as possibilities.

Land Protection Act

Introduced April 17, 2023. Referred to Parks and Recreation and Ordinance and Rules Committees. Councilmember Pepper asked for Green Team endorsement. Dennis suggested to amend to “walk safely.”

Stephanie suggested we use space from dilapidated buildings to build greenspace and gardens. Vacant Structures Registry is a tool. Councilmember Pepper explained the bill. Its purpose is for residents to have access to parks nearby as well as to protect biodiversity. He suggested the Green Team send a letter to the chairs of the two committees.

Unfinished business/Updates:

Three bios for vacancy. Will submit a slate to the Mayor.

Bicycle friendly designation: included in the recommendation plan with a 3rd quarter 2023 completion date. Dennis said that without Mayor’s endorsement, there is no staff to do the work. Quenton suggested we present a slate of designations. League of American Bicyclists can

help City if designation is pursued. Dennis would like to know if the city supports it. Councilmember Pepper said it needs to be part of the plan.

Benchmarking consultant – funds have been approved and it's now up to City Council to do the Requests for Proposals. We may need to amend the amount of funds being allocated.

No updates from Environment and Recycling committee as it hasn't met.

Communications: No updates. Regular postings on Facebook. Meetings with mayor.

Opportunities in IRA – no updates.

Tour of DC America – revenue generator for a business. Waiting on a quote on module units for the Mayor. Quenton suggested Terri Allen be invited to a future meeting to talk about the two chargers at City Hall.

Morgan King, Quenton, and Linda met with Mayor and City Manager about climate action.

Tree City USA – Arbor Day celebration took place at Mary C Snow Elementary.

A field trip to the Glass Smash Sand site is still under consideration. Linda will reach out.

What to do with stuff spreadsheet is being developed. Patti, Jennifer, and Stephanie on subcommittee. Quenton asked to be removed.

No update on the Sports Complex or Yeager Airport Runway Extension Project – EIS has been released. Friends of Coonskin meeting on June 11 from 1 – 6PM at Shelter #7.

Rutledge Community meeting was held May 15. Leaking gas wells are of concern to residents.

Rowan asked for suggestions for Live on the Levee volunteers to help collect recycling. Quenton suggested we email Director Webster for suggestions.

The next meeting is June 21, 2023 from noon – 1:30PM, City Hall, 3rd Floor.

Meeting adjourned at 1:05 PM.