

Westwood Environmental Advisory Committee

Monday Mar 19, 2012
Approved Minutes



Attending: Christine Blaney, Kevin Brennan, Gregory Mountain (*Sec'ty*), Connor Odell, Michael Pessolano (*Acting Chair*)
Regrets: Chris Balfe, Yash Risbud, Michael Ruane, John Sciara

Pessolano called mtg to order at 7:43pm
Minutes of previous mtg corrected, approved + seconded

Rain Barrels (Odell)

Odell + Mountain attended rain barrel 'Train the Trainer Workshop'
Mar7 Middlesex County Extension Svcs + Rutgers Agricultural Experiment Stn sponsors learned how to organize, run a rain barrel construction workshop
Odell was provided with packet of information, CD
Odell assembled personal rain barrel at workshop
Blaney remarked activities of stream restoration c/b chance to coordinate w/ rain barrel workshop
319(H) Fed+State funds are available for stream restoration + non-single pt pollution issues
local target is stream across 3rd Ave. from "A Field"
stabilize banks with rip-rap, vegetation
Pessolano remarked there may be another local stream restoration target
same organization for stream issues might support rain barrel / permeable pavement workshop
Odell willing to report on rain barrels to HS Environmental Club
info package provided by Rutgers Rain Barrel Workshop c/b used
action: Blaney willing to email additional concept bullets re: rain barrel benefits
Pessolano notes benefits during drought as well as brief interval of excess (storm)
WW Pride Day (Sun Jun3)
could be opportunity to gather sign-ups for workshop participants
Pessolano notes short time ahead; urges sub-committee be organized for efficiency
Mountain to look for sources of blank barrels to use for rain barrel assembly

Sustainability (Pessolano)

Biggest Loser Contest
Pessolano suggests 3-person committee format w/b more effective
developing format, prizes, engaging commercial support needed
1-month meetings too inefficient, slow
unanimous consensus; will ask Ruane appoint at next meeting
Blaney notes Aug12 is start of 12-mo clock for this to earn sustainability points for town
Magnetic Calendars
recycling activities set for year in Dec - s/b our target for being ready
action: Blaney still looking for proper-size logos, etc. for this format

Green Team (Blaney)

Anti-idling law
Chief of Police present at meeting + is willing to enforce if so directed
developing town outreach on Facebook / Twitter

Town Council not in favor

Green Team still wishes to pursue, thinking all positives not yet explored

notes that Franklin Lakes is a successful role model

plus

information available even during local power failure

features on town web site can be synch'd to Facebook

negative

concern with difficulty removing negative Tweets, FB comments

this can be minimized by disallowing 'opinion' option in comments

New Business (Brennan)

Apr21 = annual garden planting at Ambulance dispatch in Boro Hall

open to public

encouraging Boy/Girl Scouts to attend

for flyer, EnCom logo w/b welcomed sign of endorsement

action: Mountain to send logo to Brennan

possible activities include

'Edible Landscape' workshop

rain barrel demo

Next mtg: Apr 16

Mtg. adjourned at 9:15pm