

**BOROUGH OF WILDWOOD CREST
GREEN TEAM
Meeting Minutes – 25 September 2019
Borough Hall, 6101 Pacific Avenue**

Chairman Sam Wilson called the Borough of Wildwood Crest Green Team to order at 2:00 p.m. on 25 September 2019 in the Court room.

Chairman Wilson read the “Sunshine Act” and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Mary Celebre, Darleen Devlin, Joe Franco, Gene Mulligan, Deborah Rogers and Sam Wilson as well as Sarah Steiner, liaison to the DPW, were in attendance. A quorum was declared.

The minutes of the meeting 28 August were approved on motion of Mrs. Celebre second by Mrs. Devlin and unanimous voice vote of members eligible to vote. Thanks to Angel Daniels was expressed for preparing the minutes.

Kim Burns and Carlo Favretto of Smoke Free NJ, and Nick Millio of Love Blue were present to address and discuss smoke-free beaches. Ms. Burns introduced herself saying she has been working with tobacco prevention since 2000, and Carlo joined the movement as a youth, noting they address both smoking and vaping. She said typically litter from these products consists of cigarette butts (which contain approximately 7000 chemicals) and vaping pods all of which create an environmental concern. She added there is also concern about safe disposal of vaping devices. Ms. Burns noted she has worked on more than one hundred municipal ordinances adding thirty communities (at least) in NJ have smoke-free beaches and some have gone from providing designated smoking areas on beaches to smoke-free beaches. In answer to a question from the chairman she said businesses are generally supportive, and some in the vicinity of various beaches and boardwalks have implemented smoke-free campuses. In answer to a query from the vice-chairman she said receptacles have been made available for discarded butts, and larger “flashier” receptacles are most successful. She added cigarette litter is the number one concern on beaches as it is most often plowed under by the cleaning equipment. Ms. Burns said their organization is able to provide signs (a sample is attached hereto) which they have procured through grant money.

Chairman Wilson said we need to collect hard data to be pro-active with these concerns.

Nick Millio informed the Team of the founding of the “Love Blue” movement saying they began in July of this year and members are mostly lifeguards concerned about litter on our beaches who perform weekly cleanups. He read a statement (attached hereto and made part hereof) into the record.

Ms. Burns closed saying there are points available through Sustainable Jersey for these activities.

Under Correspondence, the Secretary said all recent correspondences have been distributed to Team members via email. She told the Team of two recent telephone calls, one from a concerned citizen about recycling plastic lids, and the other from a teacher at CMS wanting to involve the school children in plastic recycling. Vice-chairman Mulligan said Cape May County has no means to process hard plastics, but Atlantic County currently does. Sarah Steiner brought us up-to-date saying that as foreign markets for hard plastics have dissolved, after the first of the year no one will be collecting.

Under Old Business Mr. Franco continues to correspond Green Team meeting information and activities to Brian Cuniff for publication on the Borough web page. Chairman Wilson reported on Team participation in the Seafarers Celebration, Saturday 21 September. He thanked Ms. Steiner for help in providing a canopy, giveaways and handouts about recycling, and thanked Mr. Franco for the Green Team logo bags which were “awarded” in answer to a quiz about the recycled plastic mat provided by Vice-chairman Mulligan. Mrs. Celebre thanked Vicky Elia-Giron for her

help and introduced her to the Team as she was present at the meeting as a member of the public.

Under New Business Chairman Wilson addressed the need for the Team to regain focus and align priorities pertaining to Sustainable Jersey and the CFMP. He said there is a lot of energy on the Team and noted the opportunity for future grants through Sustainable Jersey. Vice-chairman Mulligan was tasked with determining and reporting on our status with the CFMP as we are in the second year of the five year cycle. Sarah Steiner, public works liaison was asked to review the Sustainable New Jersey Program Community Action matrix to clarify logical areas for the borough's action, identify actions initially submitted by Ms. Rogers but needing more information input, and to pinpoint key reporting criteria with which the borough needs to comply in its drive for Sustainable New Jersey certification. She also was asked to give the team a report on her findings and recommendations at the next meeting.

Secretary Rogers asked Team members to visit and familiarize themselves with the Sustainable Jersey web page and to assist in the collection and reporting of data for our certification. The matter of a budget for the Team was discussed, as currently there is none. Team members would like to purchase certain items to be used as giveaways at future events in which we participate. The secretary will formally request budgetary consideration from the Board of Commissioners. A calendar for 2020 will be explored denoting the dates of events in which we would like to participate including the Wellness Fair, Seafarers, arbor Day, etc. Opportunities for training and seminars will be communicated to the Team to provide ample time for plan-making. The Vice-chairman said he would like to pursue the Borough becoming a "Tree City USA" and was asked to bring specific information to the Team.

In the public portion, Vicky Elia-Giron said she is volunteer at the Nature Center and interested in joining the Green Team.

The Team will meet on 23 October at 2 p.m.

Meeting adjourned on motion of Mrs. Devlin, second by Mr. Mulligan and unanimous voice vote at 3:27 p.m.

Deborah Rogers
Secretary