

**Borough of Wildwood Crest
Green Team
Minutes- November 15, 2023**

1. **Call to Order.** The Borough of Wildwood Crest Green Team meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM, on November 15, 2023 in the conference room of Borough Hall.

2. **Roll Call.**

Present: Patti McQueen, Darleen Devlin, David Mears, Connie Anzelone, Catherine Filerino, Jeanne Marino, Jim McGinty and Julia Tate.

Absent: A.J. Caruso, Carmen Cusella, Danielle Corradino and Colleen Archer.

3. **Minutes** from the October 25 meeting were unanimously approved.

Mr. Mears requested the following amendment to the September minutes in order to comply with the Open Public Meetings Act. "Member Mears noted that the September minutes did not reflect discussion of the proposed Green Team informational card. He also noted substantive discussions of this matter at the August and June meetings that were also not reflected in those meeting minutes. He also corrected that the August meeting minutes were not approved in unanimity." The August meeting minutes were approved at the very beginning of the September meeting when Mr. Mears came to the meeting late.

Mrs. Anzelone motioned this correction, Mrs. Marino seconded. The vote was unanimous.

4. **Old Business**

Julia Tate advised the board that the trash and recycling cans will be painted gray and blue, respectively to match those that are on the beach for the 2024 season.

The no-smoking flags that the Borough has have been attached to the porta-potties in order to secure them a bit better than placing them directly in the sand. Also, many have been vandalized throughout the summer and need replacing. Attaching them to the lifeguard stands is not a good idea and is not the responsibility of the guards to police. It's a possibility to add the verbiage of No Smoking to the county signs but they are already a bit too busy to read already. It would be a good idea to research other beaches to see how they handle free-standing flags.

Mr Mears asked if we really need the flags as the beaches are already designated smoke free.

Ms McQueen stated that she would order more flags free of charge so we have them handy when needed. Secretary Archer has all the relative information for the flags.

Ms Filerino asked about the trash and recycling cans at the street ends being painted properly on both sides to ensure proper disposal. Julia assured her that the cans are all being correctly painted on both sides for the 2024 season.

Members state that the Green Team website needs updating and that she will contact Brian Cuniff for a progress report. Public Information Officer Brian Cuniff has the web site updated on November 6, 2023.

5. New Business.

Ms. McQueen shared with the board that she and Ms Corradino attended the NJ League of Municipalities where they walked the convention center floor, visited many vendors and collected many items of interest for us to give away at Arbor Day, Seafarer's, the Health Fair and National Night Out. One idea is a metal cigarette container that could be utilized for any butts and emptied into a Borough container. The weight would be collected and tallied to work toward Trex benches like the soft plastic program. Another idea offered was a gently used clothing bin that could be emptied by public works, weighed and tallied for a trex bench. The last thought was to offer plastic recycling containers with composte materials and a seed packet for the children at our Arbor Day event.

Ms. Filerino asked if we could look into a plastic toy recycling program for the Borough. Ms Marchiselli advised the board that in VA, there is a large indoor yard sale where vendors pay a fee to participate and they offer all gently used goods ranging from toys to strollers and so much more. We need more of a village vibe in town for us all to become more sociable since COVID. We should not be nervous about working with others and getting together more often!

6. Old Business.

Ms Tate mentioned that we could reach out to the Wetlands Institute for giveaways again in the future, but now they have nothing to offer. She will reach out to the county zoo for ideas. Secretary Archer has a contact at the Wetlands who regularly reaches out to check on the team and see if anything is needed by the Borough

Ms. Devlin passed around an iron turtle for the Veteran's Memorial Park at Preston as an idea for the podium. She will order another one so we can have public works put them both on one stand.

Mr. Mears suggested that each member start looking into the NJ Sustainable Task chart and start picking out something to work on. We are to let Patti know what task we would like to work on and she will help if needed.

Ms. Anzelone suggested that we get a department head meeting together in January to work together as employees and volunteers toward a goal. Borough Administrator Mahon has already have this in the works.

Ms. Tate asked who would be planting the trees through the Lomax program. Ms McQueen directed her to Ms Mahon.

Ms Anzelone asked if the brochures are ready yet. Mr Mears told her that they are to advise the public as to what the Green Team does, they were not ready for Seafarer's Day but were ready the next week, they have been printed but not seen and that he did not proof them prior to printing. Mayor Cabrera had final proof of the brochures.

Ms Marchiselli stated that she has been in touch with Mr Cabrera and has asked if the playground by public works could be updated as it is used by the school children and the public alike. It should be an environment where children feel safe, it's not ADA approved, there is no mulch, it always floods. The larger field across from this area can't be utilized as it is designated as an emergency evacuation field. Ms Filerino added that the school can only use it if it ADA compliant and they should pay for this.

Ms McQueen added that the teachers who take the children to this playground should appeal to the commissioners. Perhaps this can be worked on as a task.

Ms Tate opined that Scoop Taylor Park took years and mostly financed through grants. To get anything done, we have to push hard and be heard until we are heard.

Ms Marchisello asked if we could look into creating a community garden for those in need. This could also be used to teach recycling, sewer waste and composting. Ms Filerino added that we could use wild flowers rather than perennials in this area. Ms McQueen added that there is a designated list by Lomax of sustainable plants and flowers.

Ms Tate stated that the PAC will be a great venue for educating and holding seminars for community purposes. Perhaps a greenhouse could be added like WHS and Lower Twp HS.

The meeting unanimously adjourned at 2:00 PM with a reminder that the next meeting is in December and that if you can't make it, please respond to the email that will be sent out requesting your attendance.

