

Memorandum

To: Middletown Sustainability Committee

From: Cindy Unangst, Staff Planner

Date: October 14, 2019

RE: October Green Team meeting agenda for Tuesday, October 15th

Meeting discussion items:

1. September meeting minutes approval
2. Green Expo
 - a. Date for next year – April 25th. We will partner with Coloring the Street event again. Cindy sent out a save-the-date email to past exhibitors.
 - b. All-shred is already booked on our Expo date. Main Street has been informed in case they are interested in having a shredding event on a different date along with one of their other events.
 - c. E-End is no longer able to accommodate requests for attending events due to the demand on their logistics Team.
3. 2019 Green Lecture Series
 - a. September – Importance of Bees – Lindsay Barranco (UMD) – C. Burr Artz Library – Thursday, Sept. 26 – 6:30pm
 - b. October – Little Catocin Highland Glades – Deborah Barber (Nature Conservancy) – C. Burr Artz Library – Thursday, Oct. 24th – 6:00pm
 - c. Waneta from the Middletown Library is interested in partnering with us on a program related to clean water in connection with the 2019 MD One Book book of the year entitled “What the Eyes Don’t See”. Drew will lead a tour of the East Wastewater Treatment Plant on Saturday, October 26th at 11:00am.
4. SMC re-application and Municipal Carbon Footprint – Cindy will provide news of our application (Cindy)
5. MUCFC grant award! – tree planting to take place on Friday, Nov. 8th (Cindy)
6. Tree canopy assessment and goal discussion (Cindy)
7. No-Idle zones at schools (Ann)
8. Composting program for Middletown Elementary School (Cindy, Mark)
9. Compost bins for 2020 (Cindy)
10. MEA solar panel project – solar panels were installed on Sept. 17th (Cindy)
11. Streetlight buy-back program (Rick)
12. Pollinator meadow at solar array (Mark)
13. November meeting date – third Tuesday – November 19th

September Sustainability Committee meeting: September 17, 2019
Meeting minutes

Attendees: Cindy Unangst, Joyce Tuten, Jamie Moore, Ann Payne, Doug Martin, Rick Detrick, Mark Carney

1. August meeting minutes approved
2. Green Expo
 - Date for next year – April 25th. We will partner with Coloring the Street event again, on Green Street. Cindy sent out a save-the-date email to past exhibitors.
2. 2019 Green Lecture Series
 - a. September — Importance of Bees— Lindsay Barranco (UMD) — C. Burr Artz Library Thursday, Sept. 26 — 6:30pm
 - b. October — Little Catocin Highland Glades — Deborah Barber (Nature Conservancy) — C. Burr Artz Library Thursday, Oct. 24th — 6:00pm
 - c. In conjunction with FCPL and their 2019 MD One Book book of the year entitled "What the Eyes Don't See." Drew will lead a tour of the East Wastewater Treatment Plant on Saturday, October 26th at 11:00 am.
3. Sustainable Maryland Certified re-application — We will be recertified! (this is confidential at this time).
4. Municipal Carbon Footprint inventory (Cindy)
5. Maryland Urban Community Forestry Committee grant award (\$1000)! — tree planting to take place on Friday, Nov. 8th (Cindy), no school that day, will reach out to scouts and Middletown Valley Ministerium for help.
6. Tree canopy assessment and goal discussion (Cindy)
7. No-Idle zones at schools (Ann)
8. Composting program for Middletown Elementary School (Cindy, Mark) – plan to start this January, Green Club (5th graders) at MES will help initiate this, looking into potential grants from town and rotary club, Rotarians also can help with initiation of the program.
9. MEA solar panel project (Cindy) – will be installed on 9/18/19!
10. Streetlight buy-back program (Cindy and Mark) – will try to get informational presentation to this committee to gather more information
11. Pollinator meadow at solar array (Mark)

12. Heritage Festival — Sustainability Committee table with Town Board -
Saturday, September 28th

13. October meeting date — third Tuesday — October 15th

DRAFT



Date: 9/5/2019

Dear Middletown Homeowner,

We are reaching out to you to ask if you are interested in adding trees to your private property. As you may know, the Middletown Sustainability Committee recommended to the Town Board that we work to increase our tree canopy within the town limits.

A Tree Canopy Report done for Frederick County in May 2017, showed that the Town of Middletown had a tree canopy of only about 18% (with Fountaindale having 71%). As a comparison, Frederick County as a whole had 43% coverage; Brunswick had 38%; and the cities of Frederick and Walkersville were similar to Middletown. You can see the report on the town's website at www.middletown.md.us on the Middletown Green Team page.

The national average for cities is 25% coverage, but the U.S. Forest Service recommends a minimum of 40% to reap the benefits that trees bring to a community, which are numerous:

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|---|--|--------------------------|
| - better air quality | - higher property values | - improved walkability |
| - less water runoff | - reduced cooling costs | - even lower crime rates |
| - erosion control | - reduction of green space maintenance costs | |
| - carbon reduction | - more money spent locally | |
| - increased life of asphalt/hard surfaces | - more jobs | |

The Middletown Sustainability Committee set the following goals for increasing our tree canopy:

- 25% tree canopy by 2025
- 40% tree canopy by 2040

To help us reach our goals, your property has been identified as having a high potential for tree canopy vegetation. Properties in the tree canopy study that are classified as 'vegetated possible tree canopy' are grass or shrub areas that theoretically are available for the establishment of tree canopy. We hope you will consider adding one or more trees to your property.

We would like to offer the following ways to help you with any tree planting projects you might have in mind:

- a \$25 "Marylanders Plant Trees" coupon, off the purchase of one native tree with a retail value of \$50 or more, from a participating nursery
- information about Maryland Forest Service's Gift of Trees program
- information about the i-Tree software tool, and access to the Tree Frederick tree guide

Thanks in advance for your part in helping us to reach our tree canopy goals! If you have any questions at all, or know other interested neighbors, please do not hesitate to contact Cindy Unangst at cunangst@ci.middletown.md.us or at 301-371-6717.

Sincerely,

Rick Dietrick, Chair
Middletown Sustainability Committee

Cc: Middletown Sustainability Committee