

## **Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes from December 19, 2018**

Attendees: Cindy Unangst, Doug Martin, Ann Payne, Jamie Moore, Rick Dietrick, Sean O'Keefe, Mark Carney

1. October meeting minutes approved; no meeting in November.
2. Next meeting will be Tuesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> (5 to 6:30 pm); beginning in 2019, meetings will be held the third Tuesday instead of Wednesday to avoid conflict with County Sustainability Commission meetings and Green Drinks events.
3. Green Expo
  - a. Date for next year – April 27, 2019 in conjunction with Mainstreet Coloring in the Street event; Garage Alley most likely for location of Expo.
  - b. E-end and All Shred both available and have date reserved;
  - c. Rain barrel distribution – time frame to sign up and pay for rain barrels will be three weeks instead of the usual four to account for distributing them during the Green Expo instead of the first Thursday in May;
  - d. Compost bins that we received from Brunswick – decided to have residents reserve them just like the rain barrels at a cost of \$20; non-residents can reserve them for \$25; any leftover can be sold during the Green Expo at a cost of \$25-\$30. Monies will be used to offset the purchase of banners/signage for the committee.
4. 2019 Green Talks
  - a. January – Winter Tree Walk – Waterford Park – Saturday, January 19 (snow date 1/26)
  - b. February – Climate Change with Dr. Sara Via – C. Burr Artz Library – Saturday, February 16 – 2-3:30pm
  - c. March – Composting with Phil from Key City Compost – Fox Haven Farm – Saturday, March 16 – 12:30-3pm
  - d. April – Edible Landscaping w/ Michael Judd – C. Burr Artz Library – Thursday, April 11
  - e. May – Master Gardener presentation – UME – Saturday, May 11
  - f. June – recycling?
5. Riparian Meadow Restoration update and signage (Cindy) – Signage is up; Cindy will contact Dr. Tangren to ask about any planned work for 2019.
6. MEA grant extension (Cindy) – The extension request was approved and paperwork needs to be completed by the end of January with the project completed by the end of next year.
7. Keep Maryland Beautiful grant application (Cindy)— won't hear about whether we are receiving this grant until March. There was additional discussion about the Streetscape tree planting, the tree planting at Middletown Glen, and the town pursuing a Tree City USA designation.
8. Tree canopy assessment (Cindy) – Cindy is working on the review of materials for the assessment.

9. Sustainable Communities re-designation and SMC re-designation – Both designations are in need of re-applying for in 2019. Cindy is working on the SC application which is due in February.
10. Plastic waste discussion (Ann) – Ann discussed a possible letter that can be sent to Middletown businesses from the Committee asking that they consider reducing the plastic waste in town. Ann received some good suggestions from members on wording and incentives.
11. Air pollution (Ann) – Ann also brought up the fact that Maryland has one of the highest emissions of air pollution in the country and would like the schools in town to be idle-free zones to help protect the health of our children. Sean stated that there is signage in place at the Myersville Elementary School for an idle-free zone. Ann will look into that.