

Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes from January 17, 2018

Attendees: Cindy Unangst, Joyce Tuten, Jamie Moore, Keith Staley, Sean O’Keeffe, Rick Dietrick, Mark Carney

1. December minutes approved

2. Green Expo

a. Date for next year was changed to April 14, will need to send change of date announcement to prior participants.

b. E-end and All-Shred available, there is a charge for these services (estimates for \$472 and \$300, respectively)—Mainstreet has kindly offered to be a sponsor and contribute toward these charges, Cindy will check with Middletown Valley Bank to see if they will also be a sponsor.

c. Green Awards – application went out with January water bill, only one application received so far.

3. 2018 Green Talks – schedule was mailed to town residents with January water bill. Dr. Tangren’s talk on January 13 at the library went well, there were 16 attendees.

Will need Ann to verify March Green Talk date with Nancy Lawson (library has put this on their schedule on March 24 at 12:30, will need to notify them if this changes)

Cindy will attend Farmers Market meeting on January 18, Cindy reports Tina Siegel is enthusiastic about her presentation in August about cooking with local produce.

Next Green Talk is Lisa Orr “Tools, Incentives, & Programs to Save and Go Green” at the Municipal Center on February 10 (10 am to 11:30 am).

4. Pollinator Meadow – oat cover crop is spotty, Dr. Tangren is worried, will need more volunteers in March, planning a meadow maintenance class this spring. Cindy will contact Frederick County Master Gardeners for ongoing help with the meadow.

5. MEA Energy Action Plan – 2015 will be our baseline. The town solar array became active in 2016. Energy generated by the solar array is not clearly separated from town energy usage by Potomac Edison, making interpretation energy usage data extremely complicated. Cindy will continue to work on this. So far, the water treatment facilities have highest energy usage, so they will be a good target for improvement. Cindy will ask Bruce for suggestions about project proposals to improve energy efficiency at water treatment facilities. Cindy has estimate from Coblenz Electric to place timers on lights at the Municipal Center for approximately \$5K. Total yearly grant is for \$25K (use it or lose it). Other future energy conservation projects include

purchasing town street lights and converting to LED bulbs and installing roof solar panels at Municipal Center.

6. Forest Resource Ordinance (FRO) Easement inspections – Cindy, Jamie, and Joyce will go out to Glenbrook this coming Tuesday to inspect FRO easements and remove blue tubes from trees where necessary.
7. PLANT program application (DNR) – due January 31, Cindy will look into this program.