

## April Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes

**Time:** April 19, 2022 05:00 PM - 6:30 PM Eastern Time

**In Attendance In person and via Life Cloud:** Cindy Unangst, Pam McDonald, Bill Spare, Jamie Moore, Ann Payne, Agnesanne Daheny, Adam Stanzione, Andrew Landsman, Erin Carney, Sean O'Keefe

### Meeting Minutes:

1. March meeting minutes approved
2. Outreach sub-committee report: The Green Team has new business cards. Gene drafted letter inviting free tree recipients to send in pictures of their planted trees for use on our Website and FaceBook pages. Ann and Karen created a Sustainable Mosquito Control presentation and handout sheet. Pam restocked gift Tree Brochures in the 3 brochure boxes.
3. BASECAMP projects:
  - Pollinator demonstration gardens – edging for Memorial Park is done; plant tags are ready for installation; Edamarie redesigned the pollinator garden and will renovate and install new plants on Thursday, 4/21. She could use some volunteers at 8:30 in the morning. Ann has access to water for the garden from the doctor's offices but needs a hose—hoping to get one from Mark Carney. Cindy reported Rupert will be contracted to take care of weeding and watering of town plants.
  - Bee City USA – renewal application submitted end of February; will need to start working on IPM for next year's submittal.
  - Compost project – bin site at Memorial Park. Cindy shared weight numbers: 715 lbs. collected as of 4/7/22! Cindy will display a summary sheet for the Expo.
  - Lunch Out Of Landfills – started Feb. 28th for 6<sup>th</sup> grade students at MMS; Erin and Quinn went to Board of Ed meeting and spoke about the need for the school system to support the LOOL program. Funding came through from the state but less than originally asked. Will look to create high school mentoring program to spread LOOL to more schools. There are efforts to help establish the program at all middle school grades. NexTrex program continues at MES.
4. Tree plantings – Potomac Edison program on Friday, April 29th; Trees have arrived and are marked for distribution during the Green Expo on 4/23. All residents who signed up for trees will get a packet of information (via QR code). Tree planting maint. schedule (see below); 10 Redbuds will be planted at Foxfield; the other 90 trees will be placed around town.
5. Keep Maryland Beautiful grant for 10 EarthPlanter trees was awarded! Received all but \$245 for the ProMix. The native trees will be planted mid-May.
6. Mosquito control in town stormwater management facilities (Ann P./Karen W.). Green Talks are scheduled to restart in June with one on mosquito control with Dr. Leisnham at the Middletown Library. Nancy Lawson—Master naturalist—certified the talk for giving credit for advanced training. Andrew reported he did not know if the Aedes aegypt mosquito is in Frederick County yet—Karen/Ann to edit handout to note that change.
7. Tree City USA – growth award was approved, and materials were received—3 years.

8. Tree Trail on Cone Branch Trail. Dr. Jim Roessler has contacted Cindy with new interest in creating the Cone Branch tree trail. Bethany from local forest board will help.
9. Green Expo – planning is in full force! Cindy is posting about event daily on Facebook. Metal recycling and Paint can recycling (\$5/can) also at location where they pick up trees at the bank parking lot. Textile recycling at the park. Cindy has maps with parking areas and has set up layout for exhibitors. Tents provided by us for pollinator garden and the musician. 10 a.m. Opening Remarks and devotional. Ribbon cutting for compost bin opening. Jamie will be our photographer. Flyers went out to the elementary school kids.
10. 2022 Budget for Green Team: We are now a line item in the town budget. \$6,760 total budget. Upped budget to \$7,000 to allow more money for advertising in local media.
11. Andrew L.: Citizen Science Project. A way to engage local residents to volunteer for a science project such as the effect on native insects with native plants vs. other plants. They would do active data collection. Ann suggested ways to engage families, boy or Girl Scout troops, youth conservation groups. There was strong interest in proceeding with a project.
12. Urbana green team did a green talk about organic lawns and how to care for your yard to be beneficial to native insects. It was well attended and they would be willing to present to the Middletown Green Talks.
13. May meeting date – third Tuesday – May 17<sup>th</sup>

**GOALS FOR 2022:**

PLANT <b>100</b> TREES IN 2022 –				
CREATE A TREE GIFT PROGRAM - GOAL OF <b>\$1000</b> –				
QUANTIFY/SHOW PROGRESS ON <b>25%</b> CANOPY BY <b>2025</b>				
HOLD GREEN EXPO – April 23rd				
SUPPORT MES & MMS LOOL PROGRAM - VOLUNTEER SUPPORT - <b>✓</b>				
PROMOTE & SELL 20 COMPOSTING BINS –				
PROMOTE & SELL 25 RAIN BARRELS (GRANT REQUEST)?				
EVALUATE & RECOMMEND STREETLIGHT BUYBACK PROGRAM TO TOWN BOARD				
CREATE <b>2 AC</b> POLLINATOR MEADOW NEAR SOLAR ARRAY				
EDUCATION ON STORMWATER PERMIT PROGRAMS				

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

- Habitat advisor volunteers

**FUTURE PLANTING AREAS:**

- North Pointe thicket (see Ann P.) – willow tree and button bushes

## **TREE PLANTING MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE**

**April 8 (Friday) 10-12:30am – FRO area at Knoll Side Lane/Alt 40A**  
**April 12 (Tuesday) 1:00-2:30pm – finish FRO area; North Pointe plantings**  
**April 26 (Tuesday) 1:30-3pm – Middletown Parkway plantings**

**May 10 (Tuesday) 9-10:30am - FRO area off Layla Drive**  
**May 20 (Friday) 10-11:30am – FRO area off Layla Drive**

**June 3 (Friday) 10-11:30am – Wiles Branch dog park**  
**June 7 (Tuesday) 9-10:30am – Cone Branch pocket park**  
**June 17 (Friday) 10-11:30am – Cone Branch pocket park**