

Sustainable Frenchtown Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 14, 2017
Time: 8 - 9 PM (following
Location: Borough Hall

Meeting Agenda

Topic/Issue		Facilitator	Min.
Welcome -- New Year!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> January 10, 2017 meeting minutes 	Margaret	5 min
Vision, goals, and priority actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2017 work plan and budget for Sustainable Frenchtown -- update Budget -- money \$\$ 	Margaret	10
Project lead reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anti Idling Campaign -- progress and public education component Creative Assets/Team -- update on THAT and other happenings Recycling Yard Community Visioning Plastic Bag Campaign Green Community Events Environmental Resource Inventory 	Nathan Leigh Keith Margaret Lacy All/Mike Joel	30 min.
Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Press Release and Photo Website access 	ALL	5
Misc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Events and opportunities? Anything else? 	ALL	5

Our Core Values/Pillars:

- Punctuality and keep to schedule
- Stick to the meeting agenda, get to the point, respect each other's time
- Preparation
- NO DRAMA
- Inclusion, respect, gratitude, accountability
- Establish clear priorities
- Find and follow your passion to participate

In Attendance:

Jim Meade, Joel Boriek, Nathan Charron, Tom Woodruff, Pete Palac, Adrienne Crombie, John Mizin, Rocco, Margaret Waldock, Holly Low

New participant: Carolyn Wolferman (educator at Hunterdon Central)

MW gave an update on the 2017 work plan, including a scaled back list of priorities to focus on what we reasonably get accomplished this year. She will present the work plan to Borough Council at their next meeting. The group agreed this was a good approach and represented some important work to advance sustainability in our community.

John Mizin informed us that the community gardens is going to do some educational training at the Frenchtown school garden, including encouraging leaf composting and is exploring a composting workshop at the Riverfest.

Nathan reported on the anti-idling campaign: Christina (Principal at the school) has approved participation by the student council on the baseline monitoring at the school site the 27th - 3rd, Nathan would like another volunteer(s) to monitor another site on a Saturday at the River parking lot, same site both Saturdays (the Feb 25th and March 4th), Tom Woodruff volunteered. After the monitoring is over the educational campaign kicks in. Nathan will do lessons at the school, engage kids in a poster contest, and to post posters around town. Could include lawn signs in the contest and post around town.

SF brainstormed ideas on how we publicize the results: our social media outlets, Nathan had idea about a video we could post about emissions, and a letter will go out to the parents. we could put all of this on our page. We can have kids make their own signs and put on their yards. Nathan will explore whether if they have a raffle license so we can put up a prize (a local gift card to hardware store maybe) and they would enter online at HART.

Leigh Marino reported in absentia that the Hunterdon Art Tour has extended the deadline for artists to Feb 15th to register for the tour.

Jim Meade: recycling yard, mentions that cameras would be helpful to dissuade dumping, he will price it out to see if we can fit it in our budget and what the cost would be, including signage to tell the site is monitoring and spec out the signs.

Adrienne: suggests we put a table at the hardware store for salvage materials, with a donation jar and proceeds to support sustainable frenchtown. Also opportunity to promote SF. But we would want to put some parameters around what people deposit, some simple rules. We can put on a postcard with Sustainable Frenchtown information on it. She will talk to Mike about what those rules would be.

Joel: For the Environmental Resources Inventory, we talked about gathering stories from Frenchtownians to include in the report, he'll talk to Debbie Kratzer, our consultant, about

conducting some outreach as part of her work. Rocco will talk to the school about the interviews the school conducted a few years back and whether we can access these.

Joel also asked if anyone knew about the adopt a highway program, something we might pursue as an environmental commission. Rocco will look into it as his workplace explored the program. Program is through NJDOT. Joel is also going to update the "flier" that shows Frenchtown's public parkland and distribute to the Frenchtown Inn, National, and the Widow McRae and the Rittenhaus B&B. Lacy mentioned the business association might be interested

Newcomer to SF, Carolyn had an idea about focussing on creative programming at the school, could have an environmental theme, do pop-up creative art making programming. She is going to pursue with the school and keep us in the loop as projects and ideas come to fruition.

John Mizin mentioned an open recruitment night on March 15th at 7 PM for the community garden, there are at least 7 plots open for residents and non residents.

Meeting adjourned at 9 PM.