



## SHP Meeting Notes 5/24/17

**Attendees:** Tina Weishaus, Iren Marx, Nicole Wines, Andy Benesch, Hagit Mano, Allan Williams, Sylvia Hove, Francisco Gomez, Randy Solomon, Kira Herzog, Meztli Rocío Herzog, Daniel Cohen, Councilman George.

1. **High School Environmental Club** – No report.
2. **Electric Vehicle Charger** – Borough Administrator Jover will be filling out the forms to put Highland Park on the DEP waiting list for future funding. Randy Solomon indicated that EV Charging Station will be a future SJ Action for which communities can get action points toward certification. He also indicated that future development should be EV ready and that Borough should consider ordinances to require this.
3. **HP Solar Challenge** – The HP Solar Challenge formally ends on May 31. Sustainable Jersey has indicated that communities can extend the end date until September 30. The extended campaign would use a combination of tactics including blasts from the Borough, social media, screening a movie at the library, posters (11x17), woman from Nicole group to gives some talks, and advice. **Action:** a solar challenge team needs to be put together.
4. **Sustainable Jersey Grant**– Tina explained that SHP had won a grant of \$10,000 for a “Plastic Bag Reduction Campaign”, which would be a great deal of work and would require a subcommittee. She asked for volunteers: The volunteers included:

Tina Weishaus,	Meztli Rocío Herzog
Kira Herzog,	Allan Williams
Hagit Mano,	Tina Weishaus
Andy Benesch,	
Nicole Wines,	
Daniel Cohen,	

The first subcommittee meeting will be on June 1 at Tina Weishaus’s home 143 N. 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue at 7:30. Her phone number is 732-207-4206.

**Action:** Send an e-mail to subcommittee members with above information and grant application

5. **Sustainable Jersey Recertification** – Previously, it was proposed that the Borough apply for recertification on an annual basis to keep the momentum going and avoid the last minute rush. Given the new SJ Grant and SHP’s bandwidth, we believe that recertification should occur every three years but that new actions, which will take a significant amount of time, should be begun this year.
6. **Earth Day** – Allan reported that a number of people thought that this year’s Earth Day was the best ever with more people than in the past. We believe there were fewer people than in 2016 probably because of the earlier weather forecast. There was a significant misunderstanding between the leadership of SHP and the Green Party.
7. **Raices Sustainable Living Workshops** –turn out for events have been good. Tuesday has been more popular than Saturday. The talk on solar power was very popular and enlightening. There was a complaint about the event on Saturday being discriminatory. The Environmental Commission handles this issue by rotating events on Saturdays and Sundays.
8. **Website/Content** – The SHP ([www.sustainablehighlandpark.org](http://www.sustainablehighlandpark.org)) website has gone live. It also listed on the Borough’s website on the Front Page under Departments. Tina thanked Nicole for all of her work on the website. She added content plus bells and whistles (calendar, mailing list, etc.). The members of SHP are invited to supply content/news for the website and forward it to Nicole or Allan.
9. **Outreach – Arts in the Park, Visibility, and T-shirts** – Tina commented that most residents have no idea what SHP is. People thought that the Environmental Commission put on Earth Day. She wants to give SHP greater visibility, name recognition, and clout. One-step in that direction will be a presence at Arts in the Park. Members should wear their SHP t-shirts around the Borough
10. **Calendar/Budget/Obligations** – SHP needs to be aware of when our grant interim and final reports are due to the grant agency. We also need to make sure that we spent our budget in a timely manner with fiscally sound choices.
11. **Recycle Coach** – membership should download. Are there features to be added?
12. **Council Items** – Phil George will follow up on Sustainable Delegates.
13. **New Business** - There was a brief discussion of rezoning the upper Meadows as a Resilience Zone and energy aggregation as instituted by Maplewood, NJ.