



The Borough of Highland Park

Sustainable Highland Park

County of **Middlesex, New Jersey**

P.O. Box 1330

HIGHLAND PARK, NEW JERSEY

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Subject: Sustainable Highland Park Meeting Minutes, March 23, 2022 via Zoom

Attending Members:

Tina Weishaus-Chair, Irene Chan Marx, Wendy Rosen, Claudia Farber, Paul Sauers

Guests: Mark Lesko, Chris Perez, Jack Burr, Virginia Rockey, Kai Stevens, Anastasiya Chernitska

- 1) HS Environmental Club – Two members, Kai and Anastasiya reported on the club's activities, including cleanups and recycling data collection at the HS. Mark invited the club to join the cleanup at the end of Adelaide Ave. on Sunday, April 24 from 10-noon. He will check with the DPW for bags, etc.
- 2) Woodbridge power plant update – SHP and the borough council opposes the building of a 2nd power plant in Keasbey. The Board of Ed will vote to oppose due to health hazards and its proximity to HP schools.
- 3) Environmental film series - The 3 short films: Aiden's Butterflies, Dan-a Turtle's Story and How Wolves Change Rivers were screened on March 13 to 20+ attendees. SHP will host another film after Earth Day.
- 4) Earth Day Fest:
 - a. Adopt a Drain program – there will be a meeting on April 1 with the Chief Sustainability officer of Newark to learn about their in-house adopt-a- storm drain program. The plan is to recruit residents to participate at Earth Day and to set up a elementary program that can integrate the basics of a Adopt-A-Drain program based on what we learn from Newark.
 - b. Storm Stories – SHP will partner with the library (and possibly the Historical Society) to collect stories on people's experiences during recent storms, including Ida, Sandy, Irene and Floyd. There will be a display of photographs at Earth Day

- c. Tour of rain gardens - Chris and possible HS students will give tours of rain gardens on S. 3rd Ave. Chris will take responsibility for the maps.
 - d. Everyone's Farm – Dan Waite will provide seedlings, handouts, seeds and pots. His daughter will have a composting demonstration. Steve Caruso will exhibit aquaponics and quail hatching in an incubator if the timing is right.
Good Earth – will answer gardening questions and host a seed exchange.
- 5) New business: The library will host an Earth Day celebration on April 22 from 2-4 pm. There will be a seed exchange. SHP seeks someone to staff a table and promote Earth Day Fest on May 1.