

SUSTAINABLE HIGHLANDPARK



March 26, 2025 - Meeting Minutes

Google Meeting Information

<https://meet.google.com/ibq-yymb-zhf>

Call Meeting to Order

Roll Call: Tina Weishaus, Sheree Neese-Todd, Mark, Lisa Noss, Tami, Irene Riegner, Irene Marx, Paul Sauers, KT Ho- Nguyen, Claudia Farber

Topics for Discussion

- [Superfund Resolution](#) - passed March 18 - Lisa, on behalf of Matt Hersh (2 mins)
The resolution was approved unanimously by the borough council. It was first approved by SHP then the DPW.
- [Sustainable Jersey actions](#) – brief update from last week's meeting with Randy. We will be setting up a follow-up SHP meeting in the next two weeks before reaching out to Jacob Callahan - Lisa, on behalf of Matt Hersh (5 mins)
- Randy Solomon gave an overview of all the SJ actions. We are encouraged to review the actions. Need a followup meeting to set goals and priorities to determine which actions are feasible to work on. We need a liaison to work with other borough organizations to ensure there is no overlap of actions.
- Pertinent Committee Updates
 - **Earth Day Event Update** - Sheree (25 mins)
 - Brief overview of event - Sheree reported the event is coming together. The next Earth Day meeting is next Thursday, April 3 at 7 pm. There has been outreach with a survey and registration form for the exhibitors. There will be a map of locations of where each exhibitor is to set up. Meredith cannot participate as the food vendor. The earth day flyer will be last year's flyer that will be updated. No electric vehicle exhibitors. Will need to talk to Jim Polos regarding electricity for the event. There will be 5 SHP tables starting with a welcome table where exhibitors will be directed to where they can set up. There will be 2 green gardening tables for Irene R and Chris and 2 tables for vermicomposting, adopt-a-drain program, seedling giveaway and cleanup (Mark).
 - Green Threads Fashion Show
 - Clothing Swap?
 - Marketing
 - Vertical Banner

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- New Website Update - Claudia & Lisa (10 mins) Claudia reported: it's going well with the website. Web developer, Charles, has been working on it. We have a draft to look at. Launch is in the next week or two. There are still updates. Still working on the new logo, not ready for the Earth Day Festival.
- Discord Demonstration - Tami (5 mins) Tami gave a presentation of Discord and the various channels under the SHP server. SHP Discord server is not public, one would need a link to join. Can download the APP. Post meeting links on Discord as well as in email for convenience.
- [Committee Goals for 2025](#) – Need to set up a virtual meeting April or May (decide by Discord Poll) - Lisa (5 mins) Tami reported
- Programming Updates
 - Programming team - Tami - date of next meeting, upcoming event (5 mins)
 - Waste Reduction (possible subcommittee) - Tami (10 mins)
 - Clean-ups and Rain Gardens - Mark (5 mins) No new news. Waiting for the DPW to get some work done first. The next clean up is April 5th is at Karsey Park.
- Gas Powered Leaf Blower Task Force Update - last week's program - Tina (5 mins)
 - GLB survey to publicize & push at Earth Day - place survey on welcome table, have QR code available, gauge interest. Have posters on easels. The meeting, hosted by SHP, Board of Health and the Environmental Commission, consisted of a small group of participants who had good ideas. There's a pre-survey. It'll be a year- long campaign. By the end of year there will be a draft ordinance that Matt Hersh and Phil George are working on.

Other Updates (next meeting):

- Green Amendment resolution – Claudia
- Redevelopment Update
- Adopt a Drain and Green Infrastructure Initiatives Update
- School Green Team Update
- Community Outreach & Apartment Sustainable Outreach Update

Committee Goals for 2025

Rose to send a poll regarding committee goals.

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The next SHP program is how to convert a lawn to a food garden. Sunday April 13

Francesca has ideas on cooking demos teaching soup recipes. How to repurpose ingredients so there's no waste. Various uses for coffee grounds. Need more volunteers.

KT reported someone wants to help/volunteer for SHP. Think about how they can get involved.

Sustainable skill sharing series-teach sustainability

Repair cafe-we need people with experience on mending and repairing. Place a volunteer signup sheet at the welcome table at ED.

- Engage more community members in SHP activities by creating additional opportunities for participation.
- website redesign
- To have a robust schedule of programs, events, and activities that reflect the three initiatives reflected in the mission statement.
- composting town-hall (to inform residents about current status, obstacles, and available options); more general policy and legislation sub-committee; more renter inclusive outreach/activities and programs
- Can't think of one now.
- Redevelopment in SHP
- Develop ways to work in the context of a hostile federal administration emphasizing the importance of state and local sustainability efforts: Expand outreach to tenants and non home owners; expand outreach to residents in Triangle and Woodbridge Ave area; Do more Climate Education and combine with specific local actions like Borough restrictions on gas powered leaf blowers; Begin to develop advocacy at County and State levels and work with other municipalities to do so; Explore more options on composting and work on Statewide composting legislation and/or rule changes; Work more in sync with School District Green Team
- waste reduction subcommittee, and more accessible solutions (from an environmental justice perspective). Discuss offline, invite ppl who are interested to join.
- Work on waste reduction strategies for the Boro.
- Broadly - increase outreach to all communities within HP, particularly apartment dwellers and Triangle neighbors.
- Redesigned and re-implemented SHP website