

Town of North Beach
Environmental Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 6, 2022
7 PM at Town Hall and on Zoom

Attendees: Elizabeth Lawton, Lisa Garrett, Allan Creamer, Jeff Noyes, Herb Wolff

Agenda and discussion: This meeting focused on reviewing the 2024 Sustainable Maryland recertification goals. A quorum was present.

2024 Sustainable Maryland Projects

- Elizabeth shared a color-coded spreadsheet identifying SM projects identifying potentially 215 achievable points for the 2024 SM submission (180 points need to keep bronze level certification). Details in the spreadsheet won't be included again in the minutes. The expectation is that EC members will review the spreadsheet in detail after this meeting and make determinations as to what projects can be accomplished. Nine Projects necessary to meet cert level as follows:
 - Green Color (In Work)
 - Green Team Training (5 points)
 - Fall Transplant Sale (10 points)
 - Historic Preservation Innovative Demo (50 points) – template available easily tailored for NB, 3 properties qualify. Was once an active program in NB, so already a head start on this.
 - Bike Friendly Community (15 points) – Stacy has lead
 - Nat'l Wildlife Federation Community Wildlife Habitat (10 points) – Lisa: Wetlands Overlook Park will be the single park submitted, possible future expansion to other parks. Elizabeth explained that the general idea is to use the initial work and future plans as the justification for seeking grants for expansion (true for all projects, not just this one.)
 - Waste Reduction Program, Recycle Campaign (10 points) – Elizabeth shared the Residential Recycle Guide available to residents. Campaign plan is to focus on problem areas, starting with single use plastics. She added that during the March Town Council meeting, there was discussion of starting our own cardboard recycling program in NB, but this would impact the recycling contract, so careful consideration is necessary. She then shared the information she presented to Town Council prior to this meeting. It included photos of improperly recycled materials left on the curb, demonstrating residents non-compliance with the recycling guide. The Earth Day Everyday event was the start of the campaign; pics of displays/handouts at the event were shared. Town Council explored the possibility of leaving door tags at homes of residents, but there is a labor cost associated if the recycling contractor does it, so the tags will be delivered other ways.

Elizabeth is working with Dawn on a tag design; tags to potentially be delivered by Town Council members & mayor.

- Yellow Color (Pending)
 - Health & Wellness Innovative Demo (50 points) – need demographic info to ensure NB population is well-served, also support for overdose community
 - Wetlands Green Infrastructure Innovative Demo (50 points) – heavier lift than other projects
- Blue Color (Completed)
 - Tree City (15 points)

Tree Committee Meetings Combined w/EC

- Lisa said that the Tree Committee has decided to hold quarterly meetings independent of the Environmental Committee

Community Conservation Fall Programs

- September
 - Owl Prowl (full moon night)
- October
 - Owlween October 1st
 - Creepy Critter Hike
 - Make and Take (at Farmers Market)
- November
 - Let's Talk Turkey Campfire
 - Owl Prowl
- December
 - Winter Solstice Walk (December 21st?)

October Meeting Planning

- Elizabeth shared that October will be her last meeting with the Environmental Committee. She'll be looking for feedback on the project spreadsheet and will continue to work the 3 program plans she discussed even though not on the committee. Her goal is to be able to enter all necessary SM recertification info in the SM system by December.
- A new liaison will need to be identified.

Meeting adjourned

The next Environmental Committee meeting will be October 4, 2022.