

Sustainability Advisory Committee “Green Team” Meeting Minutes

A Sustainability Advisory Committee meeting was held on Wednesday, November 6, 2019 at 5:30 pm in Room 306 of the Government Office Building at 125 N. Division Street in Salisbury. In attendance were: Green Team members Terri Gladus, Ryan Weitzel, Charles Simms, Kaitlyn Grigsby-Hall, Matthew Heim, Michael Auger, Elise Trelegan, Lisa Howard, Marina Feeser, Evan Deckers, and Mark Frieden; City Staff: Alyssa Massey and Amanda Pollack; members of the Public: Geraldine Bell; and members of the Salisbury University Sustainability Class: Shahada Amir, Sofia Carrasco, Shannon Chambers, Rachel Dubbs, Jacob Eagleson, Laura Mrugalski and Tanner Seymour.

Discussion included:

1. Minutes from the October 2, 2019 meeting were discussed. Ryan moved to approve the minutes, Charles seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve the minutes.
2. The Salisbury University Sustainability Class presented their class project, which was to assist the City through the process of becoming a Tree City. There are four fundamental components of becoming a Tree City: 1) A Tree Board, 2) A Tree Care Ordinance, 3) A Community Forestry Program With an Annual Budget of at Least \$2 Per Capita and 4) An Arbor Day Observance and Proclamation. Materials were presented for review to support the four components. The Green Team is asked to consider if they would be able to serve as the Tree Board with the guidance of a professional Arborist. The Green Team will review and materials and discuss at the next meeting. The SU class will present their project to the City Council on Monday, December 2nd at 4:30 pm.
3. As discussed last month, Terri asked the Committee for an informal vote to see if the Committee wants to continue to work towards a Pay-as-you-throw (PYT) program in the City. By an informal vote of 10 to 1, the Committee decided to keep working on PYT. The next steps will be to determine a timeline of action items and strategy for implementation, including a pilot program.
4. Alyssa distributed a list of the Businesses that have been certified through the Green Business Certification program and the value of points received by each business. There were 15 companies that obtained gold and 1 that obtained bronze. For 2020, the Committee may want to look at modifying the point system to raise the level needed for gold since so many companies easily exceeded that value. Alyssa also recommended having a “Create Your Own” category to highlight the innovative strategies that many companies have developed for resource optimization.
5. There are numerous upcoming volunteer opportunities: The Green Team will have a table at 3rd Friday on Friday, November 15th starting at 4:30 pm. Additionally, we will have regular cleanups scheduled the Saturday mornings after 3rd Fridays. The first clean up will be on Saturday, November 16th at 10 am at the Amphitheater. Marina developed and distributed a flyer. The event is also on the Green Team Facebook page. All are welcome to attend.
6. The Green Fest on the Riverwalk will be held on Saturday, May 9th (rain date of May 16th). If anyone would like to be on the committee, please let Alyssa know.
7. Terri moved, Lisa seconded and the vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 pm.

The next meeting will be **Wednesday, December 4, 2019 at 5:30 pm** in Room 306.