TOWNSHIP OF VERONA



CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by Chairman Steven Neale via Zoom.

ROLL CALL

Steven Neale, Danielle Zink, Will Battersby, Thomas Daggs, Tom Jacobsen, Marie-Agnes Michellod, Ina Denburg, Zachary Winkler, Laura Rainier, Laura Zimmerman, Sara Drappi, Frank Ceccacci, Kelly Drury, Sue Waldman, Kevin Ryan, Christine Liaukus, Kari Baureis, Chrystine Gaffney

REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON

SEA energy Aggregation

- Meeting with mayors today working on new RFP process with Direct Energy to determine what percentage of savings would each town be comfortable with
 - If less than 4% savings then will need to bail
- If RFP is unfavorable, once current contract expires then everyone would automatically enroll back to PSEG
- Should know the outcome by next meeting
- Current contract 7 towns: South Orange, Maplewood, Verona, Montclair, Glen Ridge saved approx. \$2.5M added Glenrock and Livingston later on
 - Some of savings was put into a trust for energy efficiency program
 - Example could use for free energy audits for town residents

Waste Reduction

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- Trex Program
 - Original plan was to start Trex program in April
 - May be able to start soon
 - Bin at recycling center
 - Second bin ideally at Community Center, but currently closed with COVID
 - \circ $\;$ Would need weekly volunteers to take big bag from bin and drop off
 - o Can create a signup and take turns amongst members
- Plastic Bag Ordinance
 - o On hold
- Composting
 - Steve looking into larger municipal programs

Electric Vehicle Charging Station

• Should be ready to go in 3-4 weeks

- Community center
- More to come
- Conduit will go in prior to EV Charging stations going in as proactive measure

Silver Certification

- Still working to achieve
- Just wrapped up a full street tree inventory create planting schedule, trimming schedule, etc.
- Public engagement and tree inventory is significant points (about 1/3)

Gold Level

- Long term project
- Focus on energy efficiency and waste management
- Gold level initiatives promoting solar energy, EV friendly town, working energy efficient practices into town ordinances

Cleanups

- Town is buying land for open space
 - End of Oak Lane and Brookside Terrace
 - Couple acres need to be cleaned up
 - Area around the leaf dump area
- Saturday, October 10th 9am-12pm
- Flyer to go out to residents

New Green Team Roster

- Roster is up on website
- Limited to 8 public members

Rain Barrel Scavenger Hunt idea

- Two barrels are at Steve's house
- Need lead to put together list of items to photograph with intention of posting on Instagram with hashtag the person who takes the most wins
- Other option is to raffle them off at a town meeting

Community Garden

- Starting with 25 garden beds
- Waterline is down
- Construction is underway
- Next Steps:
 - Fence will go up
 - 4 weeks out
 - 6ft black galvanized with small meshing
 - Wood chips in
 - o Buy lumber

o Start constructing the raised beds

REPORTS OF MEMBERS

- Frank Ceccacci brought to attention that there are no recycling containers at the pool Steve mentioned that it is due to prior attempts being unsuccessful with contamination
 - Idea to create video to show how to properly recycle Kelly will take names of anyone who wants to be involved

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 PM. The next meeting to be scheduled will be communicated by Steven at a later date via email. Meetings will continue to be held via Zoom.

Respectfully Submitted, *Danielle Zink* Secretary