

PPA Environment Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 11, 2022
6:30-8:00 pm

Present: Mary Britton, Kathleen Davis, Steve Zimmer, Lydia McEnerney, Jane Stockman, Jennie Michitsch

Introductions/ Approve the Agenda

25% by 25 Initiative first year results

Mary drafted a First year Status Report setting out the goals and accomplishments of the 25% by 2025 Initiative. The goal was to have 100 households have an energy audit last year and the goal was reached with 105 energy audits occurring in 2021. Also there was a 2.6% decrease in natural gas usage in 2020, showing that the neighborhood is heading in the right direction.

The committee participated in 5 outreach events and the eco/garden tour was very popular. Mary would like to see another virtual information session in the future that stresses the financial benefit to consumers of reducing their natural gas usage. Other potential places to spread information include book clubs, local churches, the garden club and other PPA committees. Another suggestion is a community education class on subjects like what to consider if replacing a boiler or heater or the value of electric pumps.

Review of 2022 Schedule and Call for Volunteers

Mary prepared a draft schedule for the committee to review. First project is Earth Day Cleanup, April 9-23. Lydia will be the point person with Kathleen assisting. The committee will need volunteers to hand out gloves and bags. There will be a competition with \$25 gift cards. Mary hopes to have a 2 mile bike challenge for National Bike Month in May. The committee plans to have an informational table at Doors Open and Pratt Ice Cream Social. The committee needs to schedule a rain garden tour (no date yet) and will participate in the Garden Walk/Eco Tour/Yard Sales in June. For National Night Out, volunteers are needed to be at 25 by 25 tables. In addition, the Welcome Letter needs to be updated and distributed to block leaders.

Also volunteers are needed for the Luxton Jazz Fest table and Mary asked meeting participants to consider whether there will be a Fall Cleanup. There was a discussion when the event should occur, September or October. Lydia informed the group that the city sets the date for the neighborhood clean up and it is usually the first weekend in October. See attached draft schedule for additional information.

There was also a discussion how to find additional volunteers for the committee's projects.

Rain Garden Update

Mary is still working on getting Prospect Park flags for Glendale and hopes to schedule the tour after the flags are put up.

MDOT pollinator project

Bob Sykora was unable to attend the meeting.

Announcements for next PPA Newsletter

A request for volunteers should be posted in the next Newsletter. Jane noted that it is important to set exact dates for the various projects.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, Feb 8, 2022