

LEC 3/22/17 Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Jane Rosenblatt, Jean Milman, Lauren McManus, Julia Taylor, Kyle Strumfels, Gina Fischetti, Lester

Waste / Third Can Update from Lester:

Lester passed around a document with some statistics estimating the potential yearly food waste tonnage from restaurants who receive City trash pick-up and who are not yet enrolled in the Third Can program. He estimates that the total tonnage of food waste collected will nearly double once these restaurants are participating. He mentioned that Cindy Ege is working on a large grant to hire someone focused mainly on the logistics / expansion of the Third Can program for the Public Works Department

Lester will email the restaurant information sheet to the LEC so that we can solicit restaurants to participate before our ordinance is recommended to the City on May 16. Representatives from the LEC will bring use this document, along with other literature (past brochure) and the Third Can Sticker to each restaurant to solicit their participation:

Julia - Marhaba

Lauren - Sneddons

Gina - Aztlan

Jean & Matt - Ota Ya

Jean - Manon's

Jane - Bell's

There was some discussion about current restaurants mixing recycling with food waste. This problem might stem from language barriers and frequent staff turnover. The LEC will put together bi-lingual (English & Spanish) instructional/informational posters for kitchen staff. Lester says there is some money in his Clean Communities Grant to pay for printing.

Lester is concerned that recycling is down 40% over the past 2 months. Garbage is also 10% down, while compost is going up. He requested that the LEC put together a mailer to remind residents about what is recyclable. Lauren & Jane suggested that we also include some information to remind residents about how to dispose of prescription medication and hazardous waste.

Gina mentioned that there used to be recycling stickers for labeling garbage cans available at City Hall. Advertising these free stickers to residents might be a nice segue into encouraging more recycling.

Lauren will pose a question on both the LEC Facebook Page and the Lambertville Community page about whether residents have changed their recycling habits lately.

Third Can Resident expansion:

- > LEC applied for a Sustainable Jersey grant that includes funding another round of printed materials aimed at residents. We will hear about the status of the funds on April 11.
- > We will use the ShadFest and the Environmental Film Program at ACME on Earth Day as platforms to educate locals and promote new sign-ups
- > Lauren will inquire whether ACME is willing to promote the program through a public service announcement at beginning of shows for a month (April)
- > Send an email to current participants encouraging them to enroll a friend
- > Cindy to put an announcement about new slots and how to enroll on the City listserv
- > Social media push - Matt

Earth Day Film Program

Lauren is in the midst of working on an Earth Day film program at the ACME with Shirley Kessler. The films have been selected and Lauren requested some help brainstorming possible speakers to accompany a short documentary about the Delaware River Watershed. Some suggestions include:

- Watershed Ambassadors (Americorps)
- Watershed Institute (Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association)
- Fish & Wildlife (speaker at the first Penn East Pipeline Town Hall Meeting)
- John Miller

Emerald Ash Borer Update:

Kyle had an arborist assess the tree population at Woodcrest and give recommendations. He shared these with Kelly, who has not responded. At this time the deadline has passed for preventative treatment.

Tree Ordinance Update:

Gina will look at the comments provided by the Shade Tree Commission and at Matt's edits.

Pipeline Update:

- > The next City Pipeline Committee meeting (Wednesday, March 29 @ 8am) will be held at Suez and will include a tour of the area of the proposed Pipeline route
- > May 2nd at 7pm the City Pipeline Committee will hold a town hall meeting and a representative from the NJ Rate Counsel will be the main speaker.

Shad Fest:

> Shade Tree Commission asked if they might be able to share the LEC table at the Shad Fest. The LEC decided to offer them the table for Sunday. We will take it for Saturday.

> Lauren spoke with Dave Fournier about how the LEC and Suez might partner for Shad Fest. She will follow up with him about whether having a watering station at Shad Fest is logistically feasible. If so, the LEC will bring this request to the Chamber again.

Other business:

> ANJEC just posted a grant opportunity for Open Space / Stormwater Education - Jane proposed that the LEC submit a proposal to fund signage for the rain gardens at Cherry Street park. She also reported that construction is slated to start on Cherry Street Park soon after Shad Fest

> Jean spoke with Franta (sp?) about a National Wildlife Federation Community Certification program. Marianne Bourge is looking into whether Lambertville might be eligible. The LEC will invite Marianne to an upcoming meeting to share her work.

> Jane met a representative from Suez who would like to partner with the LEC to remove water chestnuts from the reservoir. The LEC will invite him to a future meeting to share more information about the problem and begin a dialogue about how we can work together.