

Sustainable Maryland Meeting Notes

September 12, 2022

Attendance

Chiara Atoyebi

Brittany Baker

Gina Mathias

Janet Owens

Sophia Yarrow

Discussion on the spreadsheet for priority decision making:

Discussion on the meeting with the City Council.

Given that this year is an election year with many openings in TP it is possible that the Council would defer meeting with the Sustainable Maryland in January or February 2023 until after the elected positions have been filled. It would be important to discuss with the Council by February since budget discussions will begin and these recommendations should be considered within the framework of the budget.

Committee inserted proposed actions into the spreadsheet but it isn't clear on the recommended priorities. Gina indicated that five key priorities on new/updated activities should be highlighted for the City Council when the Green Team meets with the Council. It was decided that the committee members should individually review the spread sheet and identify their priorities by September 26 before the next SM committee in October These priorities would be extracted from the spreadsheet and incorporated into a memo format.

The arbor festival will be included as a new event item in priority recommendations and Gina agreed to confer with the City Mgr about whether this could be included without prior approval.

Gina discussed that the city of Takoma Park would apply for the PEPCO Sustainable Communities Grant to develop a planting plan for Circle Woods. It would not be available funding to the Green Team.

The Committee agreed that current items on the spreadsheet could be presented to the Climate Action Coffee Group for some feedback. Janet agreed to contact the group and present the draft actions. Gina agreed to condense the draft actions into a memo format that would be easier for presentation to the CACG.

On a question about whether TP would be updating/revising its composting operations Gina indicated that the City has a capacity limitation of staff and trucks and therefore would not be expanding operations.

Gina indicated that she would try to schedule a staff member from the Sustainable Maryland Team to attend the next monthly meeting in October. The staff member could provide a brief overview of the work of Sustainable Maryland and answer questions from committee members.

Gina provided the committee with a link for comprehensive socio-economic data on Takoma Park: This will be useful in determining the socio-economic impact of proposed recommendations.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15pm