



**City of South Amboy Green Team  
Meeting Summary**

8 SEPTEMBER 2022 | 6 PM  
ZOOM (virtual)

- Members:**
- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jay Elliot      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anthony Conrad | <input type="checkbox"/> Gerry Gessie                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mickey Gross               | <input type="checkbox"/> Fred Henry                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jessica Maliszewski |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brandon Russell | <input type="checkbox"/> Glen Skarzynski           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Christopher Smiga   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mary Szaro      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Zusette Dato   |   |

- Agenda Topics:**
- 1) **Project status review**
- ✓ 6 of 8 categories
  - ✓ 2 priority actions
  - Total points 115+
  - Need to identify additional actions to ensure 150 pts for certification (*Anthony & Gerry - projects pending*)

Identify project leads for individual certifications actions and completion of documentary evidence	LEAD
Action - 1 Community Garden   Points: 10-20 ♥	Brandon
Action - 2 Wildlife Interaction Plan   Points: 10	Brandon
Action - 3 Brownfields Inventory & Prioritization   Points: 10-15 ♥	Jessica
Action - 4 Hold a Green Fair   Points: 10	Jessica
Action - 5 Innovative Community Project/PEG   Points: 10-30 ♥*	Mary
Action - 6 Community Visioning   Points: 10	Mary
Action - 7 Community Education & Outreach   Points: 5-20	Mary
Action - 8 Improve Public Engagement in Planning and Zoning   Points: 10-15 ♥	Mary
Action - 9 Historic Preservation   Points: 10	Mary
Action - 10 Diversity on Boards & Commissions*   Points: 10	Mary
Action - 11 Prescription Drug Safety and Disposal*   Points: 10	Jay
Action - 12 Removing Lead in Drinking Water   Points: 10-40 ♥*	Chris
Action - 13   Points:	
Action - 14   Points:	
Action - 15   Points:	

- 2) **Accomplishments since last meeting/Project lead updates**
- ✓ 10 Volunteers via Green Team page
    - Emails sent to all
    - Volunteer list created
    - Next Steps – *Volunteer Orientation plan*  
A Volunteer Orientation session will take place prior to our next scheduled Green Team meeting on October 13 from 5:30 to 6:00pm. Mary will connect with volunteers.☑
  - ✓ Individual action updates by project leads...

<p><b>Community Garden</b> (Brandon)</p>	<p>Although ground has been cleared on the side of the YMCA for a community garden, the project at this site is being paused for now to reconsider additional locations for the garden, as well as overall cost. When considering locations, the garden must be located on municipally controlled/maintained property and open to all members of the community. Brandon collaborated with volunteers from the Sayreville Community Garden project to benchmark efforts and accomplishments.</p>
<p><b>Wildlife Interaction Plan</b> (Brandon)</p>	<p>No updates at this time.</p>
<p><b>Brownfields Inventory &amp; Prioritization</b> (Jessica)</p>	<p>No updates at this time.</p>
<p><b>Hold a Green Fair</b> (Jessica)</p>	<p>Date confirmed: March 4, 2023 SA Senior Center</p>
<p><b>Removing Lead in Drinking Water</b> (Chris)</p>	<p>Previous discussion on labs that do water testing and next steps. Suggestion to connect with Kristen Tempe from Test America Lab who has extensive experience with Green activities. <b>Jay</b> will reach out to Kristen. Chris provided information to share from Middlesex Water Company</p> <p>Chris shared information from Middlesex Water Company - <b>“Getting the Lead Out”</b> In accordance with the New Jersey Legislation signed into law on July 22, 2021, utilities must replace the entire length of the lead or galvanized steel service line from the water main in the street to the water meter on the home or building owner’s property.</p> <p>Posted on COSA Facebook: <b>SOUTH AMBOY GREEN TEAM</b> - One of our current projects includes <b>Removing Lead in Drinking Water</b>. Please click on the link from the Middlesex County Water Company to learn more about <b>"Getting the Lead Out"</b> - A NEW</p>

	<p>UTILITY-WIDE LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM TO REMOVE ALL LEAD AND GALVANIZED STEEL SERVICE LINES BY 2031.</p> <p><a href="https://www.middlesexwater.com/customer-care/get-the-lead-out/#:~:text=You%20can%20also%20call%20800,can%20confirm%20and%20take%20action.">https://www.middlesexwater.com/customer-care/get-the-lead-out/#:~:text=You%20can%20also%20call%20800,can%20confirm%20and%20take%20action.</a></p> <p>Added to our Webpage:  <b>Removing Lead in Drinking Water   "Getting the Lead Out"</b>  <a href="https://www.middlesexwater.com/customer-care/get-the-lead-out/#:~:text=You%20can%20also%20call%20800,can%20confirm%20and%20take%20action">https://www.middlesexwater.com/customer-care/get-the-lead-out/#:~:text=You%20can%20also%20call%20800,can%20confirm%20and%20take%20action</a></p>
<p><b><i>Community Forestry Management Plan &amp; NJUCF Accreditation</i></b> (Chris) 10-20 pts</p>	<p><b>ADDED</b></p> <p>Chris will attend the New Jersey Shade Tree Federation's Annual Conference on Oct 13<sup>th</sup> to obtain Core Training Certification for the New Jersey Urban Community Forestry Program (fulfills a training requirement for a community volunteer).</p>
<p><b><i>Innovative Community Projects</i></b> (Mary)</p>	<p>Focused on volunteer recruitment as part of this initiative.</p> <p>Volunteer Welcome &amp; Orientation scheduled Oct 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm (prior to regular meeting). Email sent to volunteers.</p>
<p><b><i>Community Education &amp; Outreach</i></b> (Mary)</p>	<p>Newsletter (quarterly) drafted</p> <p>Promote Green Team, recruit volunteers and plan actions with table at Irish Festival -Oct 1<sup>st</sup></p>
<p><b><i>DIVERSITY &amp; EQUITY - Diversity on Boards &amp; Commission</i></b> (Mary)</p>	<p>Establish a review committee to evaluate the diversity of appointed municipal boards and commissions, compare to the community's demographics, and submit a summary report to City Council with recommendations.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> List of all city groups created</p>
<p><b><i>Community Visioning</i></b> (Mary)</p>	<p>TBD – At Green Fair?</p>
<p><b><i>Improve Public Engagement in Planning and Zoning</i></b> (Mary)</p>	<p>Finalize Planning Bord Guidance document</p>

<b>Historic Preservation Element</b> (Mary)	Historic Preservation ordinance in process of being updated
<b>Establish a Creative Team</b>	Discussions in progress/TBD Chris reached out to Joan Conway - Director of South Amboy Arts to collaborate on Creative Team (response pending).

Discussion:

Brandon prompted a discussion referencing Sayreville’s Environmental Commission and suggested to Councilwoman Data that South Amboy implement an ordinance to create an Environmental Commission in South Amboy. (NJ Rev Stat § 40:56A-1 (2013).

References: Sayreville Environmental Commission Ordinance  
[https://library.municode.com/nj/sayreville\\_borough/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances?nodeId=CHIIAD\\_2-32ENCO](https://library.municode.com/nj/sayreville_borough/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=CHIIAD_2-32ENCO)

3) **Green Team at Irish Festival October 1<sup>st</sup>**

We will have a table.

- Brandon is n/a but will laminate materials for display
- Jay will send materials to Brandon to laminate
- Chris is n/a – will send materials to Brandon to laminate
- Brandon will drop off laminated materials to Mary
- Mary will bring draft of newsletter and attend the Green Team table at 2pm (and bring tablecloth)

4) **Collaboration with SA Arts** – TBD depending on reply from Joan

5) **Beach Clean-Up on October 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Posted on webpage & Facebook

**Follow-Up & Pending Actions:**

➤ Review Project Worksheet/Action List to determine actions already completed and identify future actions, including Green Team leads for specific topics. (*Green Team members*)

- |  |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mary         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jessica | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brandon | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chris |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jay (completed actions) | <input type="checkbox"/> Anthony            | <input type="checkbox"/> Gerry              |   |

**Project Goal:**

Goal: COSA will become Sustainable Jersey Bronze Certified by 2023.  
 Objective: Submit application by May 2023 with a minimum of 150 points  
 (2 out of 13 Priority Actions – 6 of 8 categories)

**Action Items:**

Follow-up on pending actions

**Next Meeting:**

October 13, 2022 | 6pm

Venue: ZOOM