

Mount Rainier Green Team Agenda

February 9, 2015, 7:00-8:30PM

City Hall

Agenda:

- Composting Communications and Outreach Plan
- New Community Garden Opportunity
- Levee Project Updates and Questions
- 2015 Goals and Work Plan
- RI Ave Median Redesign and Plantings
- Other Updates?

Upcoming Events

Meeting with UMD on Municipal Carbon Footprint, Wed. Feb. 11

Future Meetings: The Second Monday of every month

March 9

April 13

May 11

Notes from February meeting

New Community Garden Opportunity

Mayor Miles has negotiated a 10 year lease of the pocket park on 31st between Taylor and Upshur Sts from MNCPPC. The Community Garden group was approached by the Mayor and they are interesting in partnering with the Green Team to make this a wildlife and people food garden with a focus on natives and edible landscaping. We are in the early stages of discussions about what this would look like. Next steps include reaching out to and engaging interested neighbors and organizing a site meeting in the coming months. Krista said she would reach out to Mary Abe - a landscape designer up the street from the Park and MaryLee said she would reach out to an abutting neighbor. If you are interested in this project let me know and I can include you in emails on this topic.

Levee Project Updates and Questions

There was a recent meeting with the City on the Levee Project and the Green Street was discussed. I am not aware of the details of the discussion but sent an email to the City Council and staff about important elements of a green street. I cc'ed this list on that email. We also received a letter from the DoE on the tree removals saying they must remove tree to comply with current USACE policy.

The Tree Commission is interested in planning a tree walk this spring to walk and talk about the tree removals coming our way and mitigation.

Composting Blitz

We discussed getting the word out about the composting bins. This is an ongoing issue. I committed to talking to City staff about placing a bin in City Hall with info on purchasing and why it is important in April. We also can write a piece for the newsletter for April. If we can organize a series of outreach events in April around backyard composting, perhaps we can even get the City Council to declare April backyard composting month! If anyone is interested in doing a cable show on this, that is an option as well. We also talked about a free bin drawing associated with a City survey. Bill volunteered to offer his services to deliver and set up as part of the package. My understanding is the Toolshed will also be doing something in coordination with the annual seed swap. Not sure if the date is set?

Meeting with UMD on Municipal Carbon Footprint

Several of us participated a separate meeting with EFC staff and UMD students on the Municipal Carbon Footprint project. A schedule and time line was discussed as well as scope and informational needs. Veronica is working to pull together information from utilities and fleet information. We agreed that the ICLEI software is needed to do this right. As of this week we learned the EFC will give us some funds to support our membership. This is great news.

Upcoming Events:

March 9: Green Team Meeting

April 18: Spring Greening Fair