SustainableEHC Meeting Minutes Sept 27, 2016

SustainableEHC held its regular monthly meeting 6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 27 at City Hall. Members present were Nanette LoBiondo Galloway, Alysha Garcia, Mary Ann Rogers, Dick Colby, Jennifer Williams and Hazel Mueller.

Rogers motioned to approve the minutes of the May 25, 2016 meeting; Mueller seconded; all approved.

Galloway shared the latest trust fund account status provided by CFO Jodi Kahn. The report shows a balance of \$1,735, but does not include some of the last disbursements for the Farmers Market.

Williams gave a report on the Farmers Market, which was challenging this year. Although the county was not able to provide transportation for seniors to and from the Rittenberg complex, the county approved the market to accept EBT cards, because Linn Farms is a certified vendor. Williams agreed to submit information on the Making Farm Markets Accessible action item for Sustainable Jersey certification. Galloway will provide her with the log in and password for the website.

Williams is currently seeking vendors for the Thanksgiving Market, which will include a holiday pop-up, hay rides, face painting, etc. SustainableEHC is seeking new vendors, and will invite green fair vendors to participate as well. Galloway is hoping the BPU vendor would agree to sell light bulb kits.

Williams also reported on the weekly Community Green Challenge at the farmers market. Williams will turn over the email addresses of those who took the pledges so a very brief, Survey Monkey survey could be sent out to determine how successful they were upholding their pledges. The Green Community Challenges action item will be updated on the website.

The group discussed the cost of signage for the Anti-idling program. According to CFO Jodi Kahn, signs are less than \$15 each if they can be posted on existing traffic sign posts. All agreed the cost would be minimal and could come out of the trust fund. Galloway will provide a list of locations where signs can be posted. Galloway will also create an educational brochure that can be distributed to shops and given to police for distribution when drivers are caught idling. The goal is not to issue traffic tickets, but to educate drivers instead.

The group discussed the pending tree planting project and agreed the planting at the Spragg School could be done by volunteers as a Make a Difference Day project. Williams' husband has an auger to that can be used to dig holes. The PTO could supply volunteers to help with planting. Galloway informed the group that the grant requires contracting a certified tree expert to help with creating specifications and developing a maintenance plan. Rogers agreed to attend a meeting with the Spragg administration 8 a.m. Oct. 4.

Galloway reviewed some of the action items that have expired this year. Some items could be updated and resubmitted for points, while others will have to be replaced with new programs. Members agreed that for our small community, it could be difficult to retain certification.

Galloway discussed holding a Green Drinks event at Leatherhead Pub. Two dates were considered, Oct. 18 or 25. Galloway said it would be an opportunity to recruit new members and share some green ideas. It was agreed to hold it on Oct. 25, the date of our next regular meeting. We will hold a brief meeting before the event at 5:30 p.m. with the event from 6-8 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Submitted by Nanette LoBiondo Galloway