

**VILLAGE OF EPHRAIM
GREEN TIER AD-HOC COMMITTEE WORKING SESSION MINUTES
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2023 – 8:00 AM - 9996 WATER STREET**



Present: Bruce Nelson, Michael McCutcheon, Kelsey Stone, Jeff Lutsey, and Cindy Nelson-Chair.

Absent: Jeff O'Keefe.

Staff: Brent Bristol – Village Administrator and Kim Roberts – Deputy Clerk.

1. Banning Coal-Tar-Based Sealants:

A discussion was held regarding coal-tar-based sealants. C. Nelson explained that the Physical Facilities & Utilities “PFU” Committee put on the record at their last meeting that the Village does not use coal-tar-based sealants. With this confirmation, the committee can spread the word to constituents. McCutcheon inquired if the communication would be a request to not use coal-tar-based sealants. C. Nelson confirmed.

2. Wetlands Update:

Bristol provided an update on the Wetlands project. Discussion included an updated material list, an additional proposal that includes materials and assembly, the Newport State Park boardwalk, volunteer labor, donations, and the Ridges Sanctuary boardwalk. Bristol explained that the directive from the Village Board had been the project needed to be completed at no cost to the Village. He concluded that until we have the rest of the information we don't know the full picture of the financial side of the project.

3. Big Plant update:

C. Nelson reviewed that she had requested an agenda item for the January PFU meeting. The request is for PFU to support Green Tier/Big Plant with one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150) towards trees. Lutsey reviewed that the community plant will again consist of ten thousand (10,000) trees, however, this year they will use two (2) year-old trees which survive better. The cost increases to three dollars (\$3) per tree so they may change how many an individual will receive. He further discussed locations for community plant sites and inquired if there were any ideas within Ephraim.

4. Updated Recycling Brochure – How to use it?:

A discussion was held regarding the new recycling brochure. C. Nelson explained that the new brochure was on the website as well as in the upcoming Village newsletter. Lutsey added that it was simplified and easier to understand.

5. New Green Tier Checklist Update:

A discussion was held regarding the new Green Tier Checklist. C. Nelson expressed how cumbersome the process was and that it seemed to be geared towards larger communities. 2022 was submitted as best as we could. 2023 is due by March.

6. Reusable Plates – Men's Club Pancake Breakfast:

A discussion was held regarding the servingware used for the Men's Club Pancake Breakfast. C. Nelson expressed concern about the Styrofoam going into the garbage. She asked if anyone knew the number served. McCutcheon said that he could get it. Lutsey discussed alternatives such as compostable serving ware items and what would be required for separating food from serving ware for disposal. C. Nelson concluded that for the February meeting, McCutcheon would obtain the number of people served for the event and Lutsey would bring options and costs for serving ware for the event.

7. Other:

a. New business for the next meeting:

i. Solar at the Wastewater Plant – Weigh costs, benefits, and explore grant opportunities.

ii. Alternative serving ware for Pancake Breakfast – Attendance numbers and options and cost for serving ware for the event such as compostable items.

8. Next meeting:

Next meeting date: Thursday, February 1, 2024, at 8:00 AM.

The meeting adjourned at 8:39 AM.

Recorded by, Kim Roberts – Deputy Clerk