

EDISON TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION (ETEC)

11/21/24 @ 7:00pm

-AGENDA-

Meeting Facilitator: **Sally Yabra(Chair)**

ETEC Members Present: **Maria Orchid, Tom White on the phone David Weintraub, Charlie Backman (Zoom)**

Guests Present:

Student Representatives Present:

- **Josephine Sarella- JPS-** *Greenhouse Club and the new Courtyard Club. Currently working on the courtyard at JPS.*
- **Pradipti Bammidi- JPS-** *Greenhouse Club. Looking to get more involved.*
- **Gauri Keshetti- EHS-** *Applied for grants to help clean Raritan River and remove contaminants. Need to contact the Lower Raritan Watershed Project. Bio Chart and a potential floating habitat.*
- **Sri Nihal-** *Went to Woodrow Wilson. Battery recycling non-profit. Battery bins are located in all Edison Schools and our libraries. www.recyclemmybattery.org Battery Bins are collected and not returned. The cost is \$110 for 2 bins. Bins typically take 2 months to fill. Next step will be trying to present at a Town Council Meeting.*
- **Nithia Nihal-** *Wasting cold water. Wants to make Recirculation Pumps mandatory in all homes. Sign the petition at savedrop.org.*

I.) Call To Order-

☒ II.) Roll Call

II.) Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting (10/17/24)-

Motion:

Second:

III.) Student Representative Updates-

A.

V.) Old Business-

A. Student Project Grant Opportunities

Shloak Patel- Eagle Scout Project. Signage and improvements to Swales Community Garden. Includes waterproofing and repairs, benches. Looking to start the project in March/ April after fundraising over the winter.

- B. Earth Day Substitute Event-** July in conjunction with the Hands of Hope Health Fair.
- C. ECGI Updates- Dwyer Park/ Swales Park-** Gardens are closed for 2024 and there are beds to rent for next season.
- D. ETEC Calendar Updates & Revisions- Finalizing Clean-Up Schedule/ Important Dates**
- E. Edison NJ Tree Ordinance-** *Spoke with Patrick Carlucci and they sent a revised plan to be discussed at next meeting. Sustainable Jersey is working on their tree as well. Prices for the tree fund can vary based on the inventory criteria and arborist to evaluate the condition of the tree.*

VI.) New Business-

- A. New Environmental Commission Applicants**
- B. Maria's Projects**
- C. Sustainable Jersey and our Green Team-** *We have achieved Bronze status. We received an updated point status.*
- D. End of Year Presentation**
- E. Bamboo Ordinance-** *Follow up. We also want to remove it from the Greenway.*

VII.) Open Space-

VIII.) Public Comments-

IX.) Our next meeting is scheduled for January 16, 2025.

Edison Township Environmental Commission (ETEC)

Student Grant Application

Supporting Student-Led Environmental Projects in Edison

Grant Amount: Up to \$200.

Eligibility:

- Applicants must be students currently attending a public or private school in the Edison Public School District.
- Projects must focus on sustainability or improving the local environment.

Application Date:

Part 1: Applicant Information:

1. **Name of Applicant(s):**
2. **Grade Level:**
3. **School Name:**
4. **Contact Information:**
 - Email:
 - Phone Number:
5. **Parent/Guardian Name:**
6. **Parent/Guardian Contact Information:**
 - Email:
 - Phone Number:

Part 2: Project Proposal:

1. **Project Title:**
2. **Describe Your Environmental Project**
(Provide a brief description of your project, including what environmental problem you aim to address and your solution.)
3. **Project Goals:**
(What do you hope to achieve through this project? Who or what will benefit from it?)
4. **Detailed Plan:**
(Explain how you will carry out your project, the materials you will need, and the expected timeline for completion.)
5. **Budget Request (Max \$200):**
(How much funding do you need for your project? Please provide a breakdown of costs and how the grant money will be used.)

Part 3: Impact and Sustainability:

1. **How Will Your Project Positively Impact the Environment?**
(Explain the specific environmental benefits your project will have. Consider things like reducing waste, improving energy efficiency, or conserving resources.)
 2. **Long-Term Vision:**
(How will your project continue to make an impact after it is completed? Will it be sustainable, and how can it be maintained?)
-

Part 4: Additional Information:

1. **Supporting Documents:**
(Attach any additional information that supports your proposal, such as diagrams, research, or community feedback.)
 2. **Teacher/Mentor Endorsement:**
(Have a teacher, mentor, or advisor provide a brief letter of endorsement of your project and its feasibility.)
-

Submission Information

- Submit your completed application and send any questions to:
charlesbackmann@gmail.com

Student Signature/ Date

Parent Signature/ Date