

## All Working Groups Meeting

March 8, 2023

1:00-3:00 PM

In Person at the Cramer Hill Community Center in Von Nieda Park  
1035 Reeves Ave, Camden, NJ 08105

### Notes

#### I. Welcome and Introductions

#### II. Opening Discussion

- Switching Air and Open space working group timings (10 am and 1 pm)
- Apply by April 14 for:
  - The [Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement Program](#). Only community-based nonprofits are eligible to apply.
    - a. Leading with Lead in Waterfront South
    - b. Water pitcher giveaway
    - c. SJCS lead home repair program
    - d. Education piece: events and mailings
    - e. Lead dust abatement
      - i. Maybe also include funding for development of concept plans for dust abatement
  - The [Environmental Justice Government to Government Program](#). To be eligible, partnerships must include community-based organizations.
- **NJDEP Air quality/ odor report:** One combination smoke/odor complaint was received in Camden City since the last CCI meeting – investigated, not confirmed
  - Camden City Surveillance was conducted a total of seven times since the last CCI meeting with no actionable observations.
- Open forum for 2023 major project updates
  - What projects are moving along, what projects could use new ideas, what projects need [financial, logistical, etc.] assistance?
    - a. Georgia-Pacific Gypsum will be submitting an air quality permit application to NJDEP within the next few weeks. The reason for this application is the removal of equipment and the removal of oil-firing capability.

#### III. Today's Focus: Earth Week

- Earth Week Events
  - Flier
  - Press event: Monday April 17<sup>th</sup>
  - Solicit missing info for various events
    - a. Camden Strong
    - b. Earth Day at the Phoenix Festival
      - i. Mighty Writers + Kipp
    - c. Walk with a Doc at Stockton

- i. What time
    - 1. 9:30 am
  - ii. Celebration of open spaces
  - iii. Rising leaders, rails to trails
    - 1. Activation of the park that coincides with earth day
  - iv. "Love your parks" week in future weeks
  - v. Move away from interventions
- Getting free yoga going with NJCF
  - a. 2 in Farnham
- Target survey to neighbors: want to make community led events
- Yesterday at the chamber, meaningful engagement; how do we engage to come out; not just meaningful engagement but mindful of how engagement is going; live engagement; EMR to help canvas; meet them where they are; most effective 1-4 pm;
- Park report cards: going through public school, community meet up type of thing,
- Want to build something out like social diffusion
- Preferred methods of engagement? Key info
- Bi-lingual Spanish speakers make all of the difference
- Need parks website: Camden conservation blueprint
  - a. TRF policy map connection?
  - b. Rowan maintains it and built it
    - i. Is there a contract in place? Unclear
    - ii. Funding in place; not sure how much or where
  - c. Pictures of playground equipment? Not really
    - i. Link with SJCS
  - d. Is there funding to update this? Been a couple of years
  - e. [www.njmap2.com](http://www.njmap2.com)
    - i. Community greenspace tab
- Bird walk at Farnham park
- Farnham park: what was the key for coalition building to support warding off ATVs
- Support microbusiness to come out to the park to program
  - a. Build out community development opportunities
- Cramer hill waterfront park: kite
  - a. Have microbusiness facet
  - b. Move the food trucks around to all different neighborhoods
- Fairmount park just did:
  - a. Scavenger hunt people did great work
- Essex park: ask them about parks: cherry blossom festival
- Cooper grant having access issues at Athletic facilities
  - a. What is the process
- Linda: Sergeant Nieves AND Officer Nunez
  - a. Stacey Pierce has a good contact too
- Community policing will get the word out also seniors

- Big Scott- Stacey's friend on CamCare's board
- b. tree planting at gateway: gardening programming, binoculars and bird guides rent for the day, bird guides to give away
  - what time: 10-1 pm
  - flier coming
  - we live here logo, roots to prevention
- c. Waterfront South event
  - Liney Ditch, April 22, 11-5:45
  - CAUSE, JACK SANTIAGO, CFET
  - Giant walking puppet, Coloring books with watershed, Seed bombs, Animals, prize wheel, prizes, Mr. Softee (Send Tracey contact)
- d. SJCS tree planting
  - Follow up with Felix
- e. HOC, CSSD, EMR doing a clean up in waterfront south
- f. PBCIP: Clean up
- g. Gateway yoga on Thursday before
- h. EMR, Covanta want to do more volunteer wise and financially
- i. 2023 Environmental Summit: April 19<sup>th</sup> 8 am- 3 pm at the Hilton
  - Reveal of registration page
  - Tentative Agenda
  - Afternoon session brainstorm

#### IV. Secondary Focus:

- [Cramer Hill Plan](#) Environmental Projects
  - Tree planting planning
  - Establishing a community garden program
    - a. Brother Jerry's Garden I thought was still in operation...? I saw new growth last Spring and it looked as if someone was maintaining it. It was a partnership with St. Anthony's if I am not mistaken. That site is where the old Camden Police Substation used to reside. It was a trailer with offices in it.
  - Tacking neighborhood flooding with property-based stormwater solutions (DIY manual for stormwater solutions, classes/ technical support/ financial incentives)

#### V. Tertiary Focus: Environmental Convenings

- Environmental Committee discussion
- Sustainable Jersey Certification

#### VI. Additional Information/Resources

DISCLAIMER: This is a summary of the meeting and is based upon the written notes and memory of individuals from Cooper's Ferry Partnership and members of the CCI Core Team. The notes are intended to capture only the main points made in the meeting, and they reflect comments on work-in-progress. The notes do not imply a specific opinion or commitment on the part of any individual or organization represented at the meeting. Report any corrections to [camdencollaborative@camdenpinc.com](mailto:camdencollaborative@camdenpinc.com)

***Next Meeting: No April Working Group Meeting***

*Re-convene in hybrid setting on May 10, 2023:*

*Waste Management @ 10 am*

*Open Space/ Brownfields @ 11 am*

*Air Quality @ 1 pm*

*Water Equity @ 2 pm*