

10/13/17 BOD Report—Green Team

We had our last meeting on Oct. 10 where we discussed our goals for the 2017 season, what we had accomplished, and what remained unfinished. And we had a brief discussion of what we might look toward for next summer.

We are most pleased with the Board approval of the clothesline at the last meeting, and noted the interesting discussion generated by the film we presented. Those who attended made connections to a much larger picture than one would have expected.

We expressed a desire that the 2018 Green Team continue to help us see connections with our everyday acts that make us more sustainable and responsible members of our community and our biome. Perhaps a movie and a monthly potluck? Perhaps a baby Green Team newsletter where people submit ideas they have that help us be more sustainable. For example, Joyce B. uses the left over brine after she finishes a jar of pickles to kill her weeds—a simple but doubly useful trick—it keeps vinegar out of the septic where it kills the good microbes, and it kills the weeds in a non-toxic fashion. Also we noted that lots of repurposed building materials, those placed behind the workshop, have been used this summer and we highlighted a few: garden boxes, fences, ramps, tables and the new walkways in the low areas of the nature trail. I'm sure there are many more we don't know about.

We also want to see nature walks continue to help us better understand our plants and wildlife and ecosystems.

We also discussed the rodent population that had such an explosion this summer throughout the Gardiner area probably because so much logging occurred. One of our unfinished tasks is to put what people have found most effective, that doesn't involve poison, on the website. We will continue to investigate non-poisonous approaches and make the information accessible to all.

We also need to finish signage for our new green bin, and to direct people to it and away from putting anything over the edge of the storage parking area. We are still fundraising with the hope of cleaning up the debris that is already there as soon as possible.

Lastly we talked about park beautification that would fit with our goals of being more sustainable. This was discussed in yesterday's work session and we will be proceeding with developing some plans for fruit trees and berry bushes.

This year's Green Team has been a small but very hard working group: Becky Stinson, Mary Harrison, Joyce Bradley, Mary Wynn, and Judith Wright with Linda Enger as our liaison. It has been a joy to work with you and I want to thank each and every one of you. Thank you!

Submitted by Jackie Lanum, Chair

