

PRAIRIE VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT AND RECYCLING MEETING, MAY 23, 2012

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

MINUTES

SPEAKER, MARGIE CUMMINS, ON RECYCLING FOOD CUPS AT EATERIES IN PRAIRIE VILLAGE

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMUNITY GARDEN
COMMUNITY FORUM
VILLAGE FEST
EARTH FAIR

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURN

PRAIRIE VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT AND RECYCLE COMMITTEE

Minutes, April 25, 2012

Pete Jarchow, for the steering committee, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Attending were Barbara Brown, Nicolás Garcia, Sarah Garcia, Karin McAdams, Dennis Enslinger, Thomas O'Brien, Pete Jarchow, Margaret Goldstein, Ruth Hopkins, Shannon Tuttle, Deborah English, Polly Swafford, Anne-Marie Hedge and Linda Smith. Attending for the first time were future SME Environmental Club representatives Clara Ma and Ada Throckmorton; Ada's mother Teresa Throckmorton was visiting.

The minutes from March were approved.

Guest Speaker – couldn't come due to illness; she would like to be scheduled for the May meeting.

Reports and business

- **Earth Fair** – was proclaimed to be highly successful.
 - **Some of the best elements:**
 - Good layout – it was easy for people to get around, and there wasn't dead space at the far end of the gym.
 - Bikes 816 – they got bike donations and want to return next year.
 - OWL – was pleased with this year's location.
 - Book Fair – raised a good deal of money.
 - Mom Garcia, who counted at the front door, registered attendance at 1005.
 - The food vendors sold out.
 - The music was appreciated and their location worked.
 - We came in just under budget; out of a budgeted \$3000, we spend \$2900 unless large bills still come in.
 - SME Environmental Committee will receive \$116 from the raffle.
 - Bread for Life was more pleased with their location this year and sold well.
 - The signs along Mission Road were well received and useful.
 - **For next year's consideration:**
 - The information table needed more programs.
 - Edward Jones was not an appropriate vendor.
 - The children's area needs more afternoon volunteers.
 - We could coach the vendors on how to draw people in: more catchy displays, talking and hawking.
 - If the fashion show were announced loudly ahead of time, people would know to gather there.
 - A full-time MC would be good; with enough advance notice, perhaps one could be recruited from the SME theater department.

- The activities that are not in the gym need much better signage, and more publicity.
- Public relations were good, but we could use even more.
- More contributions to the blog would be helpful.
- How can we attract more SME students?
- Involving the PTA would be good. Perhaps we could emphasize that volunteering with the fair would be good for their children's college applications! We need a friendly mom who's on the PTA.
- Next year's fair will be on April 13.
- **Community Gardens:**
 - Plants are growing.
 - The CCC (Cherokee Christian Church) site already has a rabbit barrier in place, and Harmon is having a workday to install theirs.
 - Some plots may be available; SME students are interested.
 - CCC is very pleased with the garden and wants to expand. Perhaps that's a good location for handicap accessible plots.
 - The steering committee is working on apportioning roles and writing bylaws.
 - Committee members who take pictures are urged to send them to Thomas or Nicolás.
 -
- **Community Forum:**
 - Now that the Earth Fair is over, the committee needs to meet.
 - Many food options were discussed. The Environmental Club may be willing to make the dinner; Nicolás is willing to work with farmers to obtain local food. An interesting possibility is to hire culinary students from Broadmoor School.
 - Fracking seems like a highly relevant topic; it's important to frame a discussion of it as a compelling experience.
- **Other business:**
 - Ruth Hopkins noted that Somerset School donated its playground equipment and soccer setup to a school in KCK that had none.
 - Village Fest will again have a booth and a game. Volunteers will be needed, of course.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30

The next meeting will be held on May 23 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karin McAdams

Addendum: Linda suggests looking over these ideas from last year's discussion:

Next Steps:

- invite the Public Works Director back for an update on the eight questions that guided the discussion in the 5-22-11 PVEC meeting. Are there any changes in practices or products or any new learnings?**
 - *does P.W. now keep a chemical log?**
 - * has the issue of training been examined?**
- Is it time to revisit the Committee proposal to add another chemical free park (like Bennett) to our park portfolio?**
- can we get an assessment of the success, weedwise, of restrained use of weed control chemicals in Ashley's neighborhood?**
- may we have a bottom line cost analysis on both product and labor to convert from SNAPSHOT to WOW?**