

**Agenda**  
**Prairie Village Environmental/Recycling Committee**

**10/24/12**

Call to order – Pete Jarchow or Anne-Marie Hedge

**Reports**

Community Forum wrap-up – Kathy Riordan and committee

Community Garden report – Thomas O'Brien and Nicolas Garcia  
Bennett Park  
Tree Board presentation

**Old Business**

Anything new on Public Works?

Clarify committee work and make plans to meet

**New Business**

Plan climate change presentation (Penny and Mary) for committee members and friend with possible potluck dinner.

## PRAIRIE VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT AND RECYCLE COMMITTEE

Minutes, September 26, 2012

Pete Jarchow called the meeting to order at exactly 7:00. Attending were Anne-Marie Hedge, Karin McAdams, Dennis Enslinger, Thomas O'Brien, Kathy Riordan, Ashley Weaver, Nicholas Garcia, Sarah Garcia, Shannon Tuttle, Margaret Goldstein, Ruth Hopkins, Deborah English, Al Pugsley, Mary English, Pete Jarchow, Barbara Brown, Penny Mahon and the evening's guest, Bruce McNabb.

The minutes from August were approved as written.

**Speaker – Bruce McNabb, Director of Public Works** on the subject of items from recycling bins not being properly recycled.

Bruce: The recycling from Franklin Park was not being placed in the recycling receptacle but was being treated as trash. This should not have happened. Perhaps it was because the recycling bins had the same color bags as those in the trash bins. This can be solved by using a different color of bag. They have not had a good way to monitor the amount of recycling and have doubts about the placement of the bins in Franklin Park.

Committee:

- Perhaps we could combine the park recycling. It would be necessary to clearly mark the bins with acceptable recyclables.
- This committee was founded by people who passionately believed in recycling. This belief is still widely held in Prairie Village, but perhaps the Public Works workers don't share that culture.
- At the Jazz Fest, the Boy Scout volunteers carefully bagged the recycling. When they approached the Public Works team, PW said they weren't aware of arrangements for recycling, and apparently the recycling was disposed of with the trash.
- Question: How many employees are responsible for emptying the trash and recycling bins in Franklin Park?

Bruce: Four or five have been trained to do it.

Committee: Deffenbaugh does an excellent training in recycling, as does Johnson County. Perhaps that training could be given as well.

Bruce: Not sure it's worthwhile to give extra training just to the four or five.

Committee:

- We want to have recycling bins in all the parks eventually. Perhaps all the PW staff should have the training.
- Changing the culture of the workers requires a demonstration of buy-in from the supervisory staff.
- The bottom line is that this is part of their job. The evaluation process needs to include compliance with recycling procedures.
- The committee passed the following resolution:
- The Prairie Village Environment and Recycling Committee requests the Public Works Department to secure training in recycling rationale and procedures for all Public Works workers. This might be provided by Bridging the Gap, Johnson County or Deffenbaugh Industries. A PVERC committee member, Nicolás Garcia, has offered to be the contact person with the training provider.

## Reports and business

- **Community Forum:**

- Numbers: In the past there have been between 50 and 175 people attending; last year was about 115 for supper. So far there are 80 reservations for this year, so there should be at least 100.
- 5 volunteers will be there at 1:00 for set-up.
- Checking in: the "Three P's" presumably Polly, Penny and Pete.
- Karin and Shirley Lytle will prepare the appetizers, and any who are available will pass them around.
- KNRC's Bill Ward Award will be given to Paul Johnson, who is on the panel.
- There will be four door prizes.
- We need to keep promoting this event in all our circles.
- Many thanks to Kathy Riordan, who helped a lot this year and will still advise next year.

- **Community Gardens:**

- Linda Cosgrove, the current chair, has asked Parks and Recreation about removing the elm near the gardens, so the gardens can be expanded. They have asked her to approach the Tree Board first and then get back to Parks and Recreation.
- The committee of gardeners will meet in October.
- They hope to participate in Cultivate KC's "Dig-In KC" fundraising event, at least next year.

- **Earth Fair:** The committee met again and decided to get together with Carrie Shoptaw and any other people interested in being director of the Earth Fair in 2013. There is a meeting with Carrie on Sunday, September 30. We are already soliciting vendors and are open to new ideas.

- **Other business:**

- Members filled out ballots indicating what committee assignments they wanted for the coming year.
- The November meeting falls on the 28<sup>th</sup>, well after Thanksgiving Day, so it will occur on the that date. There will be no December meeting.
- Mary English will be speaking at the October meeting on energy-saving measures that can be taken in the home, and especially on new ways to get rebates and other help.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45.

The next meeting will be held on October 24 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karin McAdams

## **PVERC COMMITTEES FOR 2013**

### **Seasonal committees:**

**Earth Fair : Barbara, Nicolas, Sarah, Shannon, Pete, Al, Karin, Bob**

**Community Forum: Sarah, Deb (?), Tom, Al, Polly, Anne-Marie**

**Village Fest: Deb, Tom, Pete, Al, Bob**

### **Standing committees:**

**Streams: Nicolas if committee is judged viable**

**City park recycling: Barbara, Penny, Sarah, Tom**

**Codes: Nicolas, Shannon, Mary**

**Gliding to frugality: Penny, Shannon, Karin**

**Education (composting etc.): Penny, Nicolas, Deb, Mary, Polly, Anne-Marie, Karin**

**Membership & volunteers: Tom, Al, Anne-Marie**

**Steering Committee (3 yrs.): Penny, Pete (both already on), Barbara**

**Community Garden liaison: Tom**