

Prairie Village Environment and Recycling Committee January, 2013 Agenda:
Wednesday, January 23, 2013

7:00PM -7:30PM in City Council Chambers -(Meet in the Chamber for a short presentation re:)

Smart Lights Public Meeting (MARC)

7:30PM – 8:30PM in Multi Purpose Room

Call to Order (Pete)

Approve Meeting Minutes (Pete)

Committee Reports

Community Garden (Tom/Nicolas)

Earth Fair (Karin/Jared)

Village Fest (Deb)

Community Forum (Deb?)

Old Business

2013 Subcommittees (Pete)

New Business

Update on Developments (Dennis)

2013 Budget (Dennis)

2013 Meeting Themes/Topics (Pete)

Adjourn (Pete)

PRAIRIE VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT AND RECYCLE COMMITTEE

Minutes, November 28, 2012

Pete Jarchow called the meeting to order at 7:00. Attending were, Karin McAdams, Dennis Enslinger, Thomas O'Brien, Ashley Weaver, Nicholas Garcia, Sarah Garcia, Margaret Goldstein, Al Pugsley, Pete Jarchow, Barbara Brown, Bob Pierson, Polly Swafford and four prospective members: Ben Claypool, Stephanie M. Smith, Jodi Stanley and Kathleen Novicky.

The minutes from October were approved as written, with a word of appreciation for Anne-Marie Hedge, who wrote them.

Reports and business:

Community Gardens:

- The report for the grant is due on Friday; Tom and Nicolas are working on it and will share copies when it is finished.
- A mishap occurred, perhaps intentionally. Water was found gushing from the spigot, and the Public Works people turned it off and subsequently shut it down for the winter.
- There will be a meeting on November 29 to smooth out the process of changing leadership. Three public meetings are planned for January to acquaint people with the gardens, and then the sign-up for plots will take place around February 8.
- There has been no progress on the fate of the tree that is blocking the way for garden expansion and providing unwelcome shade to some of the existing plots. The Eagle Scout who wanted to help can still be of service at Cherokee if the expansion can't take place.
- Note: in answer to a concern about bindweed in the plots, Nicolas reported that pulling it out is the best way to get rid of it.

Earth Fair:

- **Jared Cole**, who was a founder of the Earth Fair, has agreed to manage the 2013 fair. He attended the last committee meeting and is ready to work.
- **Kathi Knop**, librarian at Shawnee Mission East, was distressed because she wants to have the library book sale at the fair, as she did last year, but she has a prior commitment on that date. However, she wrote recently to say that she has worked out a way to do it.
- Members of the committee are working on recruiting school choirs to sing and Jay Meara and his commercial art class to create posters.
- The Earth Fair committee will meet next on December 6, 7:00 p.m. at Panera.

New business:

- The Emerald Ash Borer, while not officially seen in Johnson County, looms close and is a concern. The Prairie Village Public Works department is working on an education program to prepare the public for this issue.
- So far, Fairway is the only nearby city to start a treatment program.
- Treatment is ongoing and expensive, and the chemicals used are potentially dangerous. For instance, once the chemical is administered, workers have to stay on the site until it is absorbed. One possible organic treatment to consider is planting garlic and allium around the base of the tree.

Other business:

- **Dennis** has suggested that our committee help fund the food composting program that is in the experimental stage at Normandy Square. So far, out of 70 households, ten are participating in the program. The city's goal has been 50% participation.

- **Deffenbaugh Industries**, the compost recipient, needs food scraps (“brown matter”) to mix in with the leaves and grass it already collects (“green matter”) to create good compost. However, they can be slow to press new initiatives with enthusiasm. Our own goal may have more to do with demonstrating that with enough support and education, the public, exemplified at Normandy Court, will dare try things like food composting.
- Eventually, we might have citywide composting and convenient sites for picking up free compost.
- A motion was proposed and passed that we pay for 36 containers for collecting food waste at Normandy Court, not to exceed \$1000. This would come out of our e-recycling budget. We will expect periodic reports from Deffenbaugh, mostly anecdotal, and a more complete assessment after one year.

The meeting adjourned shortly after 8:30.

The next meeting will be held on January 23, 2013, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karin McAdams

A Bright Idea



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Smart Lights for Smart Cities

We have some new streetlights. What do you think?

The Smart Lights for Smart Cities initiative has installed more than 5,000 high-efficiency, LED street lights in 25 Kansas City-area communities with funding from the Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency and Conservation grant program. Some of the new LED lights are in your community!

Have you noticed the new streetlights? Take a look, and then tell us what you think about the color, brightness, glare and safety factors for the new lights.

We've scheduled a public meeting in your area to gather information. Come give us your opinion on the new lights!

Prairie Village, Westwood, Roeland Park, Mission, Fairway, Merriam, Gardner and Spring Hill, Ks.

January 23 at 7 p.m.
Prairie Village City Hall
7700 Mission Rd.
Prairie Village, KS 66208



To see a map of the locations of the new lights, visit www.marc.org/Environment/Energy/smartlights.htm.

Residents who cannot attend the meeting may also voice their opinions at www.marckcvoices.com, an interactive, online "town hall" dedicated to gathering ideas to improve the community.

Hope to see you there!



A Bright Idea



RECOVERY.GOV

Smart Lights for Smart Cities

January 2013

Newsletter Article:

Is LED street lighting a bright idea?

The Smart Lights for Smart Cities initiative has installed more than 5,000 high-efficiency streetlights in 25 Kansas City area communities. Now we want you to take a look around and tell us what you think of the new lights.

Over the next several months, we'll ask community members to meet with us and share your opinions of the streetlights, especially thoughts on light color, brightness and impact on safety for motorists, pedestrians and cyclists. A meeting has been scheduled in your area:

Prairie Village, Westwood, Roeland Park, Mission, Merriam, Spring Hill, and Fairway, Kan.

January 23 at 7 p.m., Prairie Village City Hall, 7700 Mission Rd., Prairie Village, KS 66208

You can also sign up at www.marckvoices.com to share your thoughts. The site is an online "town hall" meeting dedicated to gathering ideas for improving our region.

The Smart Lights for Smart Cities initiative is funded by the Department of Energy's grant program to install high-efficiency street-lighting technologies (primarily light-emitting diode (LED) lighting). It is now time to evaluate the project. The utility providers want to know whether high-efficiency streetlights are a promising long-term technology. Municipalities want to be sure that the energy savings LEDs can provide are sustainable and will add to public safety and community character.

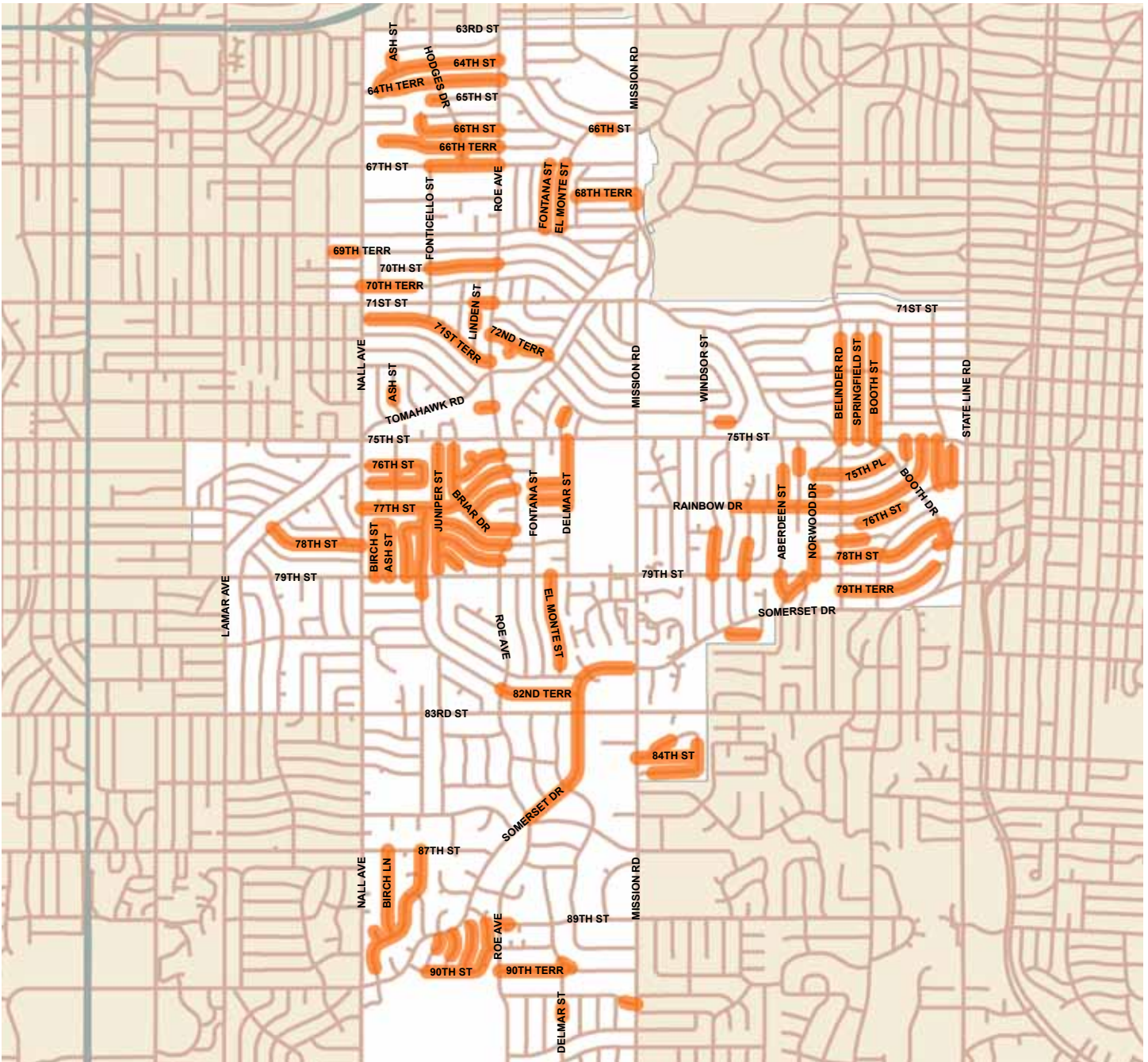
For more information visit www.marc.org/Environment/Energy/smartlights.htm. You can also contact Mid-America Regional Council staff, Georgia Nesselrode at gnessel@marc.org; Roger Kroh at rkroh@marc.org; or Laura Bogue at lbogue@marc.org and/or call 816-474-4240.

Prairie Village, Ks.



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Smart Lights for Smart Cities



LEGEND



City Limits



Highways



Streets



Light-Emitting-Diode (LED)
Street Light Locations



Water

