

## PRAIRIE VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT & RECYCLING COMMITTEE

### AGENDA FOR APRIL 24, 2013

- Call to order
- 
- Approve March meeting minutes
- 
- Review agenda, add New Business items
- 
- Committee Reports
  - Earth Fair
    - Report
    - Discussion
    - Next year
  - Community Garden
  - Village Fest
  - Community Forum
  - Education
  -
- Old Business
  - 2013 Budget
  - 2014 Budget
  - Overland Park Electronic Recycling (Saturday April 27<sup>th</sup>)
  -
- New Business
- 
- Adjourn

# PRAIRIE VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT AND RECYCLE COMMITTEE

Minutes, March 27, 2013

Pete Jarchow, for the steering committee, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Attending were Pete, Karin McAdams, Dennis Enslinger, Thomas O'Brien, Margaret Goldstein, Deborah English, Mary English, Polly Swafford, Ben Claypool, Bob Pierson, Barbara Brown, Ashley Weaver, Amy Bell (a new attendee) and Julie Coon, the evening's speaker.

The minutes from February were approved as corrected.

## **Guest speaker: Julie Coon, Environmental Compliance Manager for Johnson County**

- **Composting pilot project at Normandy Square**

- Deffenbaugh has facilities for composting food waste and how to use them; hence they are experimenting with collecting food waste in a small, controlled area: Normandy Square Homes Association, an area with 80 households.
- At the outset, 35 collection bins were distributed, but there was little education and therefore poor participation. Now there will be more education to help overcome the "ick" factor and answer many questions.
- Our committee has helped finance the collection receptacles and will continue to do so.
- Tracking participation is important but is not easy. Our committee could help do this.
- Deffenbaugh will offer free compost in April, at Santa Fe Park, along with composting information.
- Members of the committee had a great many questions and some suggestions on this topic.

- **Five-year waste management plan update:**

- In 2005, 22% of households participated in solid waste diversion. Since then the number has approximately doubled.
- The large-item pickup is an important part of waste diversion but is not really measurable because of the informal pickup by resellers.
- The next major education campaign will involve commercial waste disposal.

## **Reports and business**

- **Earth Fair:**

- A signup sheet was passed to gather volunteer commitments for the fair.
- Many committee members offered to distribute posters and postcards

- **Education:**

- The committee would like to sponsor a series of programs, open to the community, on a variety of environmental topics. These would be less formal than the Community Forum and might involve potluck suppers before the programs.
- A motivational project could be to provide a set of criteria that local people would have to meet (efforts to help the environment), after which they would be able to display a special car sticker affirming their efforts. Ideally these marks of distinction would become sought after in the community.
- The committee has tentatively agreed to meet again on April 22 at 6:00 at Panera.

- **Community Forum:** Deb English reported that the committee is still looking at possible topics and will send out a survey to many contacts, including KNRC.
- **Village Fest**
  - Deb is persisting with the project of a stationary bike that lights up a light bulb.
  
  - All agreed to the idea of nominating Linda Smith for a spirit award.

**Other business – the proposed budget for 2013-14**

\$750 Education

\$3500 Earth Fair

\$500 Village Fest

\$800 Community Forum

\$1000 e-recycling

\$200 Jazz Fest

\$1200 Normandy Square composting project

**2014-15**

We should ask for more in 2014-15, because the Community Gardens will no longer be supported by their grant. The plots earn money for the city, since their fees can't come directly to the PVERC. Other estimates should be raised: \$900 for education and \$900 for the Forum.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40

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

Respectfully submitted,

Karin McAdams