

PRAIRIE VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT AND RECYCLING COMMITTEE

MEETING, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 2013

AGENDA

- Call to order

- **Blue River Watershed Association Presentation, Leslie Alford**
 - Approve April meeting minutes
 - Review agenda, add New Business items
 - Committee Reports
 - Village Fest
 - Activities
 - Committee Publicity (Tri-fold?)
 - Community Garden
 - Community Forum
 - Education
 - Earth Fair
 - Old Business
 - 2014 Budget
 - New Business
 - _____
 - _____

- Adjourn

PRAIRIE VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT AND RECYCLE COMMITTEE

Minutes, May 22, 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, Penny Mahon, Barbara Brown, Ashley Weaver and Jared Cole, Earth Fair Coordinator.

The minutes from April were approved as written.

Reports and business

- **Earth Fair:** Jared Cole
 - Jared shared comments from vendors, which he distributed in survey form.
 - Publicity was adequate, especially as attendance seemed to be good, but it can always be improved. We don't need to make as many postcards, although the mailing is valuable. A member suggested that we make yard signs to distribute among members and supporters.
 - The floor plan worked very well. We do need to mark better the exhibits that are not in the main gym.
 - We will encourage food vendors in better waste management, especially in avoiding Styrofoam. They also had good practices, e.g. the coffee cake truck that used bird-friendly shade-grown coffee.
 - Next year we should encourage the library sale to break down their boxes at the end.
 - An exit survey, albeit a quick, in-person one conducted randomly, would be very helpful, as our impressions from visitors are only anecdotal.
 - The bike drive people didn't come, which was a problem as there were a lot of donations. We can try them again next year.
 - Perhaps we don't need a food drive, as many other groups do it.
 - We need to start involving students much earlier. Especially, it's important to work with the commercial art teacher regarding the posters. If we chose the theme in August, we could work with the first semester class.
 - We could use more activities for the children.
- **Education:**
 - The committee didn't meet, but it's still trying to contact the local schools to find out what they are doing to encourage environmental education. People on PVERC have contacts at Brookwood and Briarwood.
- **Community Gardens:**
 - A summer solstice party will be held at the Harmon garden on June 21 at 6:00 pm; it's a potluck summer, and committee members are welcome.
 - There are lots of plots this year dedicated to food donation.
 - New water spigots for Harmon will be installed soon.
 - The gardens now have a Facebook group.
 - An idea: could we encourage Prairie Village families with private garden plots to donate some of their harvest?

- **Community Forum:** Deb was not present, but it was reported that speaker selection is in progress.
- **Village Fest**
 - The Shawnee Mission School District has a bicycle that can power a light bulb. Tom Heintz can borrow it.
- **Other business**
 - The city council has not yet approved the 2014 budget. They have set up a committee to examine committee structures and needs.
 - The e-recycling event was a success, with a large turnout.
 - Dennis distributed copies of the official city roster of our committee. We now have room to add up to four new members.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10

The next meeting will be held on June 26 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karin McAdams