

**PRAIRIE VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT AND RECYCLING COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING**

**AGENDA JULY 24, 2013**

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- \_\_\_\_ Call to order (Tom)
  
- **“Backyard Chickens” – Brian Pauls**
  
- Approve June meeting minutes
- Review agenda, add New Business items
- Committee Reports
  - Community Forum
  - Community Garden
  - Village Fest Report/Discussion
  - Education
  - Earth Fair
- Old Business
  - Normandy Square Update
- New Business
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  
- Adjourn

## **Prairie Village Environment and Recycling Committee Meeting Minutes – June 26, 2013**

**In attendance:** Deb English, Margaret Goldstein, Barbara Brown, Dennis Enslinger, Al Pugsley, Polly Swafford, Bob Pierson, Pete Jarchow, Thomas O'Brien, Amy Bell, Benjamin Claypool, Penny Mahon and Caitlin Dix, visitor.

**Pete Jarchow called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.**

**Additions to agenda: none**

**Blue River Watershed Association Presentation by Leslie Alford:** Started 15 years ago as a non-profit; unique as it is really the only such local organization. They promote education, not advocacy. They are passionate about getting students on the water, but their programs include adults and children. Many areas in and outside of the watershed proper quality for programs to be presented. These programs include clean streams, rain gardens, critter count and both rain gardens and rain barrels. Leslie talked about the main pollutants in the watershed. Questions were raised regarding native plants, and she suggested the best locations to purchase these in the KC area. Some cities have matching funds for planting native plants. We could do this, and Dennis has talked to Public Works regarding this program.

**The May meeting minutes were approved as written.**

### ***Committee Reports:***

**Village Fest-** A sign-up sheet was passed around. Bob will purchase prizes for the fishing game, which should be healthy snacks with minimal packaging. The bicycle is a go but a sign is needed. Dennis will pick up and return. Deb offered to make a tri-fold poster for our booth. We will have a Community Gardens fact sheet and a sign-up sheet for those who might wish to join our committee. Anne-Marie will be receiving the Spirit Award at the morning ceremony. Ed will have his electric cars also. Dennis will try and get Public Works to take care of recycling following the event.

**Community Garden** – They are in year two and have nearly 50 families – 10 at Cherokee and 38 at Harmon Park. They will spend their \$800 but still have some left as of now, but they have a plan for the rest of their budget. A Summer Solstice Garden Party was held and was very successful. Donating the planting of one new tree convinced the Tree Board to allow the committee to cut down two trees for a sunnier garden. The leadership committee this year has been very organized, and the committee is hopeful that next year will be as well, as positions on the board are one-year terms. Extra food has been grown by individuals as well as from plots

that were not used and is being donated to either the Village Church or Hillcrest Covenant. Some of this is food for back-pack snacks.

**Community Forum** – October 3rd. Speakers have been chosen and a title is being considered from several suggestions. During our August meeting invitations will be prepared for mailing.

**Earth Fair** – Jared is unsure if he will still be in Kansas City next year, but we have offered the job again to him if he is able.

**Education** – Needs to meet again. Margaret has given Penny the name of the person attached to Belinder. Caitlin mentioned the organization “Eating from the Garden”, which has an in-school curriculum for elementary grades. Briarwood has a Healthy Planet Team and Highlands a science club. Deb suggested using or hosting a science fair.

### **Old Business – 2014 Budget**

**New Business** – There is still an opening on the Steering Committee. Community Garden grant fees are in our budget now, according to Dennis. The “chicken man” is on the agenda for July. Dennis does not believe that Prairie Village will allow the raising of chickens because the homes associations would disapprove, and, even if it were somehow approved, it would be impossible for all residents to have them.

### **Adjourned**

Submitted by Penny Mahon