

PRAIRIE VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT AND RECYCLING COMMITTEE MEETING

AGENDA – OCTOBER 23, 2013

Call to order

Approve September meeting minutes

Review agenda, add New Business items

Committee Reports

Community Forum Recap

Community Garden

Education

Earth Fair

Village Fest

Presentation: Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Area

(general interest presentation on 30 square mile wildlife area in central Kansas focusing mainly on water resources aspects)

Old Business

Meeting schedule (combined November and December meeting on December 4th)

New Business

Discuss possible Kristin Riott meeting concerning carbon emissions reductions in Prairie Village

Adjourn

PRAIRIE VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT AND RECYCLE COMMITTEE

Minutes, September 25, 2013

Pete Jarchow, for the Steering Committee, opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Attending were Pete, Barbara Brown, Ben Claypool, Deb English, Thomas O'Brien, Danielle Dulin, Margaret Goldstein, Al Pugsley, Kathy Riorden, Polly Swafford, Karin McAdams, Clara Ma, and a visitor, Liz Henry.

The minutes from August 28 were approved as written.

Reports and business

- **Community Forum:** The date is October 3, 5:30 p.m., and the theme is "What's in our Water?"
 - A volunteer sheet was passed, and committee members filled it all.
 - Responses have been slow. Most local legislators have been unable to come. Barbara Bollier asked for the power point presentation, but that won't be possible.
 - Quite a few postcards came back with incorrect addresses. The registration table will make an extra effort to check people's contact information. Door prize tickets should also help verify information.
 - It was decided not to discontinue sending postcards, because many people don't open their email.
 - Tom will send out one more email, and there may be coverage in the Shawnee Mission East *Harbinger*.
 - To make sure that people who eat dinner have actually paid, registration people will hand out old playing cards to each person who is eligible for dinner.
 - KNRC usually covers the speaker honorarium, customarily \$100.
- **Community Gardens**
 - At the October general meeting, new officers will be elected.
 - There are still problems with inappropriate behavior on the part of two plot holders and with too-tall crops, but solutions are being discussed.
 - The gardens have donated 132 pounds of produce each (plus a great deal of kale) to the Meneilly Center and Hillcrest Covenant Church.
- **Earth Fair:**
 - The committee has found a manager for next year's Earth Fair: Linda Gourley, who was recommended by Thomas O'Brien.
 - Pete will re-contact the SME commercial art teacher to make sure that she's working on having the students make posters for the fair.

- **Education Committee:**

- The committee has been searching for an appropriate project.
- A possible idea is to find ways to help Prairie Village stores limit the number of plastic bags that they give to customers.
- Members noted that there are cities with laws that either prohibit plastic bag use or require retailers to charge for giving bags. At the very least we could spark a publicity campaign for retailers that already give a \$.05 refund for people who bring their own bags – and encourage other merchants to do so.
- Other possibilities are to put out a petition to find out how much interest there is in this issue, to promote the recycling of plastic bags, or to help educate school children on the plastic bag issue. There are a lot of educational materials that graphically depict the damage that plastic bags do to sea creatures.

- **Other business:**

- Danielle Dulin, responding to a discussion at last month's meeting, noted that there are ways that Deffenbaugh could monitor how many people are recycling.
- Al reminded us about the Concert for the Climate, coming on September 28, and Bill McKibben's talk the night before.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15

The next meeting will be held on October 23 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karin McAdams