

Environmental Board Meeting

August 8, 2012

Call to order: 7:01 by Vice Chair Martha Dahlinger

Members Present: William Beck, Tim Winslow, Luis Henriquez, Martha Dahlinger, Catherine Niessink Spencer Welling, Chris Barnes, Arnett Williamson

Excused Absences: Ruth Caputo, Marty Sepanik

Minutes: June Minutes Approved as amended - total approved cost for Water Treatment Plant Site is \$3905, \$2905 for seed installation, \$750 for berm removal and grading, \$250 for site plan and soil testing

Water Treatment Plant: Native Connections can do an October planting or an early November planting. Chris will have the burns removed by mid-October, therefore the planting can begin in late October or early November.

Purple Loosestrife:

- The PLS pull that occurred at the consolidated drain on August 4th, was a success.
- Ashley from public media was there and interviewed a few of the board members.
 - Video will go on public access channel and will also be available on the EB website.
- Environmental board members that were present at the PLS pull were Martha, Catherine, Luis, Arnett, Spencer, Ruth, Marty, and Chris. There were no public volunteers for the event, but a few did stop and ask questions.
- Possible idea for approach is to consider a method for tagging for easier identification of the plant so you can come back to the plant in the future.
- Education outreach to the public will help with PLS identification and severity of the plant.
- The PLS identification sheet will be on the EB website shortly.
- Power point presentation made by Luis will be on the EB website.
- Possibility to plant native plants in the areas where EB removed PLS would benefit the area.
- Winter EB meetings should focus on invasive species.

Display Board

- EB Display on Purple Loosestrife at Lakeview Park has not gone up yet, but hopefully will be up soon.

50th anniversary ideas

- City council is asking the board for ideas that the board might want to pursue.
 - Portage Pride walk – Bill

- Residents sidewalks are not being properly maintained and it puts a negative view on the city.
- Walking down the sidewalk should be a nice experience
- If citizens could get together and walk down the sidewalks and maintain the sidewalks it would help with restoration.
- Neighborhood groups can be formed that can maintain and police the neighborhood.
- These could be safety issues for Portage residents. Poorly maintained property can contribute to safety issues for Portage Residents
- At the September meeting we will discuss this event in greater detail.
 - September 28th is when ideas are due to the city council.

Email Address:

- Chris will try and set up an email address that the residents can use to express comments and inputs toward the Environmental Board.

Single Stream Recycling

- City council extended the current recycling methods. Single stream recycling would require a millage extension.

Fracking

- The environmental board will look into fracking issues in the city

Mandatory Sewer Department Applications

<u>Address</u>	<u>Deferment</u>
218 Schuring	1 Year
3519 W. Milham	1 Year
1813 Mandigo	June 1 st , 2013
3549 W. Milham	July 1 st , 2013
3629 W. Milham	Denied

Meeting Adjourn: 8:14p.m