

Environmental Board Minutes

June 13, 2012

Call to Order: 7:04

Members Present: Ruth Caputo, Martha Dahlinger, Catherine Niessink, Marty Sepanik, Spencer Welling, Tim Winslow, Chris Barnes, Sarah Perry

New Members: Arnett Williamson, Luis, Henriquez

Minutes: May Minutes Approved

Notes: This meeting was Sarah Perry's last meeting with the Environmental board. A new student liaison will be with the board next meeting.

Old Business:

- Native Connections
 - Jared Foster was here to answer any questions about the proposal Native Connections offered us for the restoration of the Water Treatment site.
 - The best time of the year to start the project would be late fall or early spring. Spring would be the best time if aesthetics were an issue. There is no danger to losing the plants during the winter if the seeds were planted in the fall. If fall was done, frost seeding would help the success rate of the seeds. It would be possible for Native Connections to do long term maintenance to make sure everything is going smoothly after the initial implementation. The long term maintenance plan is something that will have to be included into the budget.
 - \$6000 was budgeted for the Water Treatment plant. \$3905 is the expenditures so far with the grading, seeds, and Native Connections work to be done. \$2095 could be used for signage and further maintenance.
 - The EB makes the motion to accept the Native Connections proposal as is, it does not include any long term maintenance plans. The EB also makes the motion to have a fall planting. City officials will sign the contract.
- Purple Loosestrife
 - On, June 1st, 7 releases of approx. 60 beetles each at the consolidated drain near Sonic Drive in and D & W, Mandigo marsh, and Lakeview park took place.
 - Marty and other available members will go out in a month or so to see to monitor the progress.
 - August 4th, 2012 is the inaugural event for a group to go out and Locate/Dig/Cut PLS at the consolidated drain to Identifying small clumps and new areas of PLS so they do not get established. A subcommittee of Ruth, Tim, Martha, and Luis will develop a time slot and advertise the event.

- Ruth has talked to the Park board to see if they wanted to coordinate with us regarding PLS activities but we have not heard back from them yet.
- PLS video on cable access will start at the end of June.
- Updating the map will be done after beetle monitoring.
- Invasive Plant Control
 - Phragmites and narrow cattail patches were found at the boat ramp of sugarloaf lake. Correct identification of the invasive species will be done by Paul
 - The DNR would be responsible for any spraying in this area.
- Lake Property Owners
 - No new progress has been made with contacting these owners
- Single stream recycling
 - City Council is in the progress of looking at the bids now.
- Park Board
 - EB has been trying to cooperate with the Park board to help with invasive species and other environmental concerns. No new connections have been made between EB members and park board members. A plan needs to be developed so the members know which to focus on when visiting the parks.
- EB Display at Lakeview Park
 - Next year, a budget should be proposed so a proper display board is presented that effectively informs the public on environmental issues.
 - Four different displays should be presented each year.

Wild Ones presentation near the nature center from 10-12 pm on prairie restoration on Saturday June 16, 2012. For details, visit the wild one website

Possible Potluck with the parks board and Environmental Board in an informal format.

EB will keep Sarah Perry on the email list to inform her with the EB activities.

Adjourn: 8:47