

## **Environmental Board Meeting Minutes**

1.13.21 Meeting

### **Call to Order:**

--Meeting called to order at 7:00pm.

--*Due to COVID 19, all members participated remotely.*

--Members Present: Thomas Shaffer, Joe Chamberlin, Deirdre Courtney, Chelsea Huber, Lauren McMullan, Jerry Kroehn, Roger Lonoza, Grace Freed (Youth Advisory), Assistant City Engineer Jamie Harmon (ex officio)

--Prior meeting minutes approved.

### **Climate Emergency/Climate Action Plan Update:**

--No real update since last meeting, but tune into the City Council meeting 1/26

### **Website Ideas/Contributions:**

--Carbon Footprint Calculator – a fun tool to use for citizens to understand their individual impact

--Recycling/Styrofoam with takeout orders – the previously drafted article was not in the Portager. Members tried to understand why from Jaime. Apparently, someone in the City believed the submission was “restaurant shaming”. Members were not happy about this and asked Jaime to find out more information. Joe offered to tweak article and resubmit.

--Kalamazoo River watershed link.

--Feeding winter birds.

--Invasive Pulls info and dates. For 2021 pulls, we will use all of last years proposed dates (on Sundays this year).

### **Mute Swans:**

--City/homeowners want an opinion on DNR removal.

-Members decided to abstain from any involvement, deferring to the DNR.

### **Mosquito Meeting Update:**

--Topic tabled until next meeting. In the interim, Joe and Andy to again reach out to MSU scientists and Aaron Wright (Roger to send Aaron’s number to Joe).

--Thomas said he, too, reached out. Joe and Thomas to plan a conference call with Aaron and Andy to contact MSU.

### **Google Docs/Google Drive:**

--Members discussed information sharing options and what would work best for our purposes.

--Jaime to flesh out our options.

**TO-DO for next meeting and before:**

- Joe to tweak Portager Article and send again to Jaime.
- Joe and Thomas to conference call with Aaron.
- Andy contact MSU scientists.
- Chelsea to send dates for this year's invasive pulls – start thinking of when to sign up.
- Jaime to check into the GoogleDocs/shared drive options.

**Motion to adjourn; approved:**

- Meeting ended at 9:00p.m.

/s/ Portage Environmental Board