

Environmental Board Meeting Minutes

4.14.21 Meeting

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Call to Order:

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

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

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

--Prior meeting minutes approved.

Welcome/Guests:

--Dr. Dinh from Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (Infectious Disease) re: mosquito traps and testing.

-Issues arose due to the pandemic

-Reagents ran out

-Transporting mosquitoes to the lab was problematic

-3-5 testing sites will be used in Kzoo County

-They will test 3,000 mosquito pools this season, logistics still being worked out

-DHHS partners with Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Agriculture

-Agencies report to DHHS anytime a disease shows up in animals.

-EEE found in Bishop's Bog previously – the virus and how it gets to humans is very complex.

Green-A-Thon:

--Board discussed final preparations of this event including schedule, board construction, and logistics.

Fundraising:

- Joe spoke to Freshtime: \$50 gift cards per month donation.
- Board also discussed getting t-shirts made:
 - Provide at Garlic Mustard Pull or other events.

Garlic Mustard Pulls:

- Board discussed the mask-wearing policy. Jamie to check on what the rules are with Parks Department.
- QR Scan code – hands-free way to sign up for updates.
- Final preparations discussed for the pulls including the table, tent, sheets, and the last three sheets to prepare and format to be added to the boards.
- Thomas to check with Gordon Water re: donating for the pulls.

Motion to adjourn; approved:

- Meeting ended at 9:00 p.m.

/s/ Portage Environmental Board