

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
April 28, 2022

A Regular Meeting of the Environmental Citizens Committee was held on Thursday, April 28, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. in the Municipal Building at 300 West Thirteen Mile Road, Madison Heights, Michigan.

Present: Chairman Salley and Members: Ms. Bartleman, Ms. N. Fox and Councilor Rohrbach

Absent: Ms. C. Fox, Ms. Porter and Mr. Theodoroff

Also Present: Public Works Supervisor Ballantine, City Manager Marsh and Deputy City Clerk Boucher

22-01. Excuse members.

Motion by Councilor Rohrbach, seconded by Ms. N. Fox, to excuse Ms. C. Fox, Ms. Porter and Mr. Theodoroff from today's meeting.

Yeas: N. Fox, Rohrbach, Bartleman and Salley

Nays: None

Absent: C. Fox, Porter and Theodoroff

Motion Carried.

22-02. Meeting Open to the Public.

There were no members of the public wishing to speak.

22-03. Minutes.

Motion by Mr. N. Fox, seconded by Ms. Bartleman, to adopt the minutes from the Regular Meeting of November 11, 2021 as printed.

Yeas: Rohrbach, Bartleman, N. Fox, and Salley

Nays: None

Absent: C. Fox, Porter and Theodoroff

Motion Carried.

22-04. Additions to the Agenda.

Motion by Ms. N. Fox, seconded by Ms. Bartleman, to add Seed Library to Current Projects on today's agenda.

Yeas: Bartleman, N. Fox, Rohrbach and Salley

Nays: None

Absent: C. Fox, Porter and Theodoroff

Motion Carried.

22-05. Tree Program.

General Update

Public Works Supervisor Ballantine gave an update that 40 trees funded by the OakStem Grant will be planted in the DDA District along with the General Construction plantings. The Right of Way Tree Program currently has 100 people on its waiting list.

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Funding will come from Arbor Day and the adoption of the new budget. Residents must sign a waiver stating they will help water the trees planted on their property. There are now two water trucks assigned to maintain the trees in the city. For Fiscal Year 2022, a total of 150 trees will be planted for the DDA District, General Construction, Right of Way Tree Program and Arbor Day.

22-06. Current Projects.

Apartment Recycling

Public Works Supervisor Ballantine asked for volunteers to contact the apartment complexes to confirm if they have a recycling signs and carts at their locations. He will provide a list of the apartment complexes and the property manager information. Public Works Supervisor Ballantine thanked Ms. N. Fox and Ms. Bartleman for their assistance with this program.

Cart Program

City Manager Marsh shared that the Community Advisory Board donated \$17,000 to offer 100 garbage cart and recycling cart combos in the MSHDA areas in the city. The garbage cart and recycling cart combos are being sold by Green for Life (GFL) for \$150 each. This Fall, the City will host a Block Party for the Neighborhood Enhancement Program and include information on rat control and Code Enforcement. City Manager Marsh applied for a Neighborhood Improvement Grant through Habitat for Humanity that will help at least 45 homes.

Public Works Supervisor Ballantine is researching information on the Michigan Small Community Education Grant Program, an effort funded by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) along with The Recycling Partnership.

Ms. Bartleman offered an education class through Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority (SOCWA) for the Neighborhood Enhancement Program. She suggests having the block party at Huffman Park.

Current/Future Planting Projects

City Manager Marsh updated that the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) has decided to remove the garden at Progress Drive and John R Road that was intended to enhance the Welcome to Madison Heights sign. She is researching information on the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity discretionary (RAISE) Grant that helps communities around the country carry out projects with significant local or regional impact.

Public Works Supervisor Ballantine replied to Ms. Bartleman's inquiry that due to current road construction, the City is unable to do a road diet study to consider any bike lanes.

Seed Library

Ms. N. Fox updated that she received seed donations from the Royal Oak Library and the Good Neighbor Garden in Ferndale. She set up a pop up seed library and gave away at least 100 seed packets at the Parks and Recreation basketball game last Saturday. Ms. N. Fox shared postings from the Seed Library Facebook Page that includes a seed

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starting tutorial. Seed Library logs are available at the Library to track seed packets taken.

22-07. Financial Update.

City Manager Marsh informed everyone that the Environmental Citizens Committee (ECC) has a current account balance of \$7,542.84.

Ms. Bartleman invites everyone to a Plant Sale on Sunday, May 29th from 2 – 5 p.m. and SOCWA will provide an education outreach on compost during this event. She requests that City Manager Marsh email her the volunteer form for the event.

22-08. Other Business.

Arbor Day Celebration

Public Works Supervisor Ballantine shared that the Department of Natural Resource Grant has offered the City \$10,000 funding.

Wyland Water Challenge

City Manager Marsh advised everyone that the City will receive and file the Wyland Water Challenge.

Ms. Bartleman request that the City apply for funding through the Wyland Water Challenge by creating a storm water program.

Councilor Rohrbach suggested partnering with the Clinton River Watershed Council for the Wyland Water Challenge.

21-83. Adjournment.

There being no further business, Chairman Salley adjourned the meeting at 11:29 a.m. Next meeting will be held on Thursday, July 14, 2022 at 10 a.m. at the City Hall.

Phommady A. Boucher
Deputy City Clerk