

West Lafayette Go Greener Commission Meeting  
Minutes of Regularly Scheduled Commission Meeting  
Tuesday, October 11, 2011, 7:15 PM  
Council Chambers, West Lafayette City Hall

Attendees: Commissioners Denise Blank, Peter Bunder, Kristin Flannelly, Heather Gall, Gene Hanus, Richard Johnson, Dan Schuster  
Absent: Diane Damico, Allen Jacobsen, Lindsey Payne, and Aparna Puri  
Guests: Falon French, Dave Henderson

- I. Call to order – Dan
- II. September minutes: Gene, Second: Kristen, all vote yes, minutes approved!
- III. Guest Speaker: Falon
  - a. Update on Phosphorus-Free Lawn Fertilizer
    - Water Policy Director to be hired soon at Hoosier Environmental Council
    - Updated fact sheet (modest and non-partisan tone)
    - Strategic Plan: Get partners to help with the campaign as a whole or with specific workshop. Do we need a vote on this from the Commission?
    - Potential Partners
      - o WREC
      - o Tippecanoe County SWCD
      - o Friends Groups, but most are focused on Celery Bog, etc.
      - o Ray Schnapp (Wabash River Keeper)
    - Goal is to plan meetings in March and April for (i) lawn care companies and business that sell fertilizers (Garden centers) and (ii) general public.
    - State Chemist: New rule does NOT require lawn care companies to go through training to protect watershed
    - A later workshop (perhaps a year later?) should focus on more than just phosphorus-free fertilizers
  - b. Motion to have Falon send out her fact sheet and strategic plan so then we can all look it over, approve it, and vote on the partners and strategic plan at the next meeting.  
Gene: second  
Vote: All yes
  - c. Discussion:  
Peter: How do we get people to come to our workshop?  
Falon: Need companies to understand value-added components, so we will need a promotion campaign to appeal to lawn care companies and garden centers.  
Dan: Can we get soil tests to get people excited about going phosphorus-free?  
Falon: Maybe there is a grant we can write to get soil test kits to give out at the workshop.  
Kristen: We could see if there are any bulk suppliers that would be able to give a good deal to local stores, and/or provide samples at
- IV. Kristen: Two individuals contacted her (seniors at Purdue) wanting to volunteer.  
I CAN Youth foundation also is looking to be involved in research, projects, etc.
- V. Rick: Bird Town/Bird City
  - In touch with Audubon Society at the IN level and they are contacting the national level to figure out how to get “certified” with Bird City status
  - Gene: Friends of Celery Bog might also get involved
  - Dan: If Friends of Celery Bog doesn’t want to be involved, then we can take back the project

- Maybe there is potential for tourism dollars coming in if we are able to get designated as a Bird City
  - We already meet a lot of the criteria, we just need to put the package together
  - Local Audubon society is active
- VI. Peter: No report
- VII. Denise and Heather: Last Thursday we had our compost bin workshop
- 22 bins went home with people that night, and Denise delivered 2 more this evening
  - Denise will deliver another 4 on Thursday
  - There are bins left over, and so we may need to have another workshop
  - If we can't get enough more "Takers" from the Wabash Shore Neighborhood, then we may need to target another neighborhood
  - 58 bins
  - Tipmont wanted their logo on the bins, so we needed to purchase waterproof labels
  - Lowes was wonderful and did a great job delivering the bins!
  - The remaining bins are at the street department
  - Dave got to plug the grease collection system for the anaerobic digester since you can't compost grease/cooking oil
  - Denise, Lindsey, and Heather will meet to discuss
- VIII. Guest #2: John Paterson from the Animal science department at Purdue
- Uses the anaerobic digester for methane emissions studies that she does
  - Interacts with Lindsey Payne and is interested in recycling efforts
- IX. Gene: Boiler recycling group counted houses with recycling bins out, and it was only about 10%
- Single family houses where students live: Meridian, Northwestern, Salisbury, and 26
  - Group developed a survey and is working on a door hanger with info on where to get recycle bins and what can be recycled
  - Hope to have survey done by the end of this month
  - Gene and Lindsey will have survey information regarding their second neighborhood in time for the November meeting
  - Need people to help execute the survey
- X. Dave
- Purdue Green Week was fun, but there was some rain that "dampened" the mood...
  - WREC is expecting money from a 319 grant from IDEM and they will be able to fund projects in municipalities related to green infrastructure
    - Potentially purchase more rain barrels (Falon says that 319 money usually allows purchasing of rain barrels)
    - Denise: Could they help us buy recycling bins?
  - Dave has been looking at grant applications to try and find ways to get money for electric vehicles, microturbines, etc.
- XI. Dan
- In Michigan they capture rainwater to flush toilets, but the state doesn't want to re-write plumbing code, so it must be treated as grey-water, and therefore would have to biocides, etc.
  - New sustainability coordinator at Purdue: start getting recycling at apartments
    - A group will provide larger recycling stations if they can coordinate with landlords/apartment managers
  - Dan received news today regarding the Community Conservation Challenge
    - Competitive grant program that can fund \$2,500 through several hundred thousand (1.2 million federal funding available for the program)
    - One area is traffic signal retrofits: change lamps out to LEDs

- Opportunities to retrofit municipal buildings based on Dan's energy audit (City Hall or Police Building)

- Application is due NOVEMBER 12! Money must be expended by May 15!

- Go Greener Commission could be the community partner but it doesn't have to be

XII. Dan: Motion to end the meeting?

Kristen motions to end the meeting and Rick seconds

XIII. Meeting adjourned at 8:13 pm.