

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mike Geisel, City Administrator

FROM: Tom McCarty, Director of Parks, Recreation & Arts

SUBJECT: Chesterfield Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Summary
Thursday, Dec. 15, 2022



A meeting of the Chesterfield Citizens Environmental Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, Dec. 15, 2022, in Conference Room 102/103.

In attendance were: Chair Darcy Capstick (Ward III), Jeanne Clauson (Ward III), Paul McCool (Ward I), Susan Mlynarczyk (Ward III) Secretary Pro Tem, Donna Pecherski (Ward II), Barron Rutledge (Ward 1), Madhu Bhagavatula (Ward IV) and Councilmember Gary Budoor (Ward IV) for beginning of meeting, Jason Beacom (Parks Director Pro Tem).

Guests: Susan Piazza from Republic, Kim Williams, and 3 others from St. Louis County/Dept. of Public Health/Waste and Recycling Outreach: Ashley, Margaret, and Ben.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

I. APPROVAL OF MEETING SUMMARY

A. Approval of the Chesterfield Citizens Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

Donna Percheski made a motion to approve the Meeting Summary of Th., December 15, 2022. The motion was seconded by Paul McCool, and passed unanimously by a voice vote.

Reminder to all to rsvp to meetings to the Parks Director and Ann-Marie.

Next meeting is Jan 19th – 3rd Thursday at the request of Parks Director McCarthy.

II. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Madhu Bhagavatula received her green shirt.
- B. Give nominations to Tom for Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary now.
- C. Green Team awards: Susan Piazza and Kim Williams. Darcy spoke – awards for outstanding environmental efforts. They are number 67 & 68 on our Green Team Listing on our page on the city's website. Paul took photos. Jason will ask Tom to add these names and companies to our Green Team list.
- D. Councilmember Gary Budoor requested to bring back holiday potluck meeting in December in the Multipurpose Room. By unanimous consent, his request passed.
- E. National Wildlife Federation (NWF) Year End Report – Dir. McCarthy is still in the process of completing this Fiscal Year Report for 2022, our 18th year of NWF Community Recertifications, due 12/15/22. Tom is on it. Emily Praziotti will train new parks director how to use the NWF website. 148

certified community habitats. 150 registered to become certified. Mayor's monarch pledge period is open. What we're most proud of: green teaming 4 people this year. Finalized First Baptist Church of Chesterfield write up. No word on their dedication yet. We should show more that we are a National Wildlife Federation Certified Community – great value is being placed on that throughout the country. 4 meetings this year – need to attend all to get our points.

F. Vertical Growing Walls – this looks good to happen at the new Logan Park. On hold for now. Hopefully City Hall may be used too to replace native flora there.

G. Eagle Scout Pollinator Garden at CVAC PARKS HQ– We documented what we have done for education for next persons. Tony Moore is interim parks superintendent. Dir McCarthy is checking on burning to control weeds.

H. Tabletop – a new tabletop will be set up at city hall in early April for 3, 4, 5, 2023. Amazon has info for honey and planting native flora to help the bees. And maybe run over into June – national pollinators month. Tri board is available for use at the community center – by all departments in the Parks, Rec., and Arts Dept.

I. Meadowbrook Farm/Clarkson Ests. Entryway – waiting for info from Josts.

J. Confirming dates for events w/Parks Dept.

*World Water Day – March 22nd. There's a flyer on our page

*International Earth Hour – March 25th. Flyer on our page.

*Gardening for Wildlife w/Susan Leahy. 12 kits of 9 flowers each donated by Susan. May 3, 2023, 6:30 – 7:30. Don't know location yet – City Hall or Community Center

*Missouri Arbor Day – April 7th, National Arbor Day – April 28th. At a school or maybe at a park, suggested possibility of Logan, if ready. Geoff Wegrzyn will decide details. Also, Dr. Clarice Hutchins/Pfizer Biopharmaceutical R & D's Green Team will help too.

*International Compost Awareness – 5/7 – 5/13. Pdfs on our website for adults and children

*June – national pollinator month. Many education flyers on our page.

*April 22 or 29 will be our Earth Day 32 event, depending on regional's date. Will be at Central Park

K. Recycling at Earth Day 32. There will be a newsletter article about what Remains will take, STL Teachers Center/VanGo – depends on if it's the same as St. Louis Region.

L. Bag and Tag 2 wildflower mixes for Earth Day 32 – Seeds have been received; need to be stored in a cold garage in the sealed bags. Will be distributed in envelopes with contents tag. Department will photocopy information for the outside of the paper envelopes which will hold our seeds. Planting instructions – maybe QR codes, with mix noted. Will bag and tag closer to the event. Donna will hold and store seeds.

M. Spring invasive bush honeysuckle Eradication – checking with Terry Grogan

III. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Earth Day flag. Parks Dept has it. Will need a standard. Jason will bring it.
- B. Susan Piazza will do a presentation/recycling program in July, probably 6:30 – 7:30. Likely can use community center through 2023, maybe into 2024. Considering Wed. July 19th. Darcy will check with Susan Piazza.
- C. Girl Scouts STEM and robotics managers will post our program information on their Facebook pages. Also, Madhu has a robotics contact to send our program information. Darcy will pass info on to Terry Grogan for Boy Scouts
- D. Darcy is coordinating year-end report with Su Ghosh. A ‘final draft’ will be ready for the committee’s approval.
- E. Our website page problem – environmental page, our CCEAC brochure isn’t current at the QR code. Jason: it’s been taken care of, i.e., they removed the out-of-date brochure and referred the reader to the bottom of our page to the PDFs for the current brochure.
- F. End of Year Accomplishments 2022 – The rough draft in writing has been completed; additional edits needed to be made to it. Su Ghosh will add photographs to it for a “finished draft” for the committee in January.
- G. Newsletter Deadline Dates - Deadline dates were given to Darcy Capstick. Dec. 23 articles are due to Dir. McCarthy for 3, 4, 5, 2023. Darcy will email the articles to everyone tomorrow.
- H. International Earth Hour and Stellar Youth connection. Link on top left of our page. Darcy’s suggestion: get stellar green youth info to girl scouts and Madhu’s robotics and others. Discussion re: getting youth involved. Darcy’s hoping youth will help with the compost donation at Earth Day 32.
- I. David A. Risberg Grant – We will work on the grant in January, if necessary, in order for one to be ready for December 2023. If you have any ideas now, contact Darcy Capstick. This is a Conservation Federation of Missouri Grant for Affiliates in good standing, of which we are one.
 Jason’s suggestion: create awards that will encourage involvement – maybe youth, maybe adults, maybe let local colleges know. Darcy pointed out Stellar Green Youth Team Award. Donna: Maybe let the schools know re: stellar youth award.
- J. Elections – need to get nominations in to Tom now. Darcy: cc whoever you nominate.
- K. Parks, Recreation and Arts Update – Logan Park started grading. Eberwein – hoping concrete will be done by end of year. Concern re: turtles. Saved all they could, saved most. May have a tree walk there with native trees w/QR codes. CVAC – turf installed.
- L. June pollinator’s month. Jeanne’s connection w/Webster Univ re: research and their findings as possible program. (Jason: Yellowstone – many researchers. Huge impacts from introducing even 1 non-native thing. Ecosystem implosions.) Tabletop will include pollinator’s info for March – June. Consider giving away a bee house at the program.
- M. November Recycling Data – no info from Republic (year-end audit) or Royal Oak. Information requested.
- N. Nuclear fusion successful experiment. No waste. Maybe by 2050. Current nuclear is fission, which has nuclear waste. Also, working on hydrogen powered cars. Wax eating moth larvae saliva biodegrades polyethylene.

IV. Other

A. Next Meeting Date: Jan 19, 2022, third Thursday

B. Need Members: Ward 1 – 2; Ward 2 – 3; Ward 3 – 0; Ward 4 – 3.

V. Adjournment – the meeting was adjourned at 7:25PM.