

MEETING MINUTES
Chesterfield Citizens Committee for the Environment
November 20, 2014, 6:30 p.m.
City Hall, Room #202

All agenda items were discussed; necessary outcomes/actions are noted.

I. Call to Order/Agenda.

A. Attendance/Absences/Notices.

Meeting called to order at 6:35.

In attendance: Darcy Capstick, Ken Denson, Polly Rutherford, Jeanne Clauson, Jeanne Tevlin, Bob Ernst, Su Ghosh

Absent: Donna Pecherski, Terry Grogan, Jeff Chapple, Patty Wiggins, Ben Keathley,

City Liaison in Attendance: Libbey Tucker, James Mello

City Council Liaison Absent: Bruce DeGroot

The Committee opened the meeting by celebrating a Special Birthday for Jeanne C. with refreshments and cards.

B. E-Reports: 10/23/14 minutes, A/W Republic, Royal Oak Recycling (10/14- xxxx tons). Allied Waste all categories were up. Royal Oak Recycling 86.08 tons for October.

II. “Sustainability by Design” Projects.

A. Partner: Report by Jennifer Schamber, General Manager, Greenscape Gardens. Celebrating 20 their anniversary. Jennifer sits on their Grow Native Committee. Considering endorsing the NWF’s certification process and will make recommendations for new measures. She distributed brochures to CCE regarding their various Grow Native efforts. More interest in pollinators, raise public awareness of needs of pollinators. Focusing on monarchs plus other species. Working with St. Louis Zoo on Grow Native/pollinator projects in their new location on south side of Highway 40. Show Me the Monarch Program, offering native milkweed plants to customers. Pollinator Palate Program featuring different plants every month for different butterflies. Working with BDC and Gateway Greening on biodiversity issues. Majority of current projects are in the City but they are looking for valuable efforts in the County. Also working with the charity, Circle of Concern. All the projects in STL were submitted to Today’s Garden Center magazine and STL was the Midwest Regional winner; national winner to be announced later. Garden shop is certified by NFW. Discussed the regional problem with bush honeysuckle and other invasive species and how to replace them with native species.

B. Republic Update – Libbey, James.

1. Republic’s Handbook was issued via mail. Pumpkins/Jack O’Lanterns, Christmas Trees announcement will be in newsletters. Need more “all-in-one” recycling flyers in the reading rack. Cans should **not be crushed** because they fall through the conveyor belt and cause problems for workers.

C. Follow-up 1st Annual FNG Grow-Off update – James.

1. James created a draft update notice to contestants via their street addresses to remind all of the simple pencil sketch requirements. The back of the mailer will be graph paper so the sketches can be drawn on it. Need a recap on the number of replies for Dec meeting.

D. C/S Blankets (59) and Comfort Bears (782) update – Donna, Darcy, Libbey.

1. Please check for restocking.
2. GS Troop #2534 will make a presentation next month of their Award Ribbons. Check stock at Circle of Concern
3. Current totals in-stock. Five bags (about 100 bears) on hand.

E. Benevolences/Sustainability Grants – Libbey, James, Darcy.

1. Total \$669.58 on hand before two checks were received this week; \$500 from MRC and \$239.35 from Remains; a total of \$1,408.93 is currently on hand. Committee voted on sending a \$500 “green grant” to WITS for 50 out of 100 recycled computers for the area’s most needy families but software and operating system licenses are needed. Bob will ask a good friend at Microsoft if they can donate software or operating licenses and will report back to CCE.
2. Advancing YISTEMR: HS Student, summer internship @ Monsanto/Chesterfield, 1 HS student submitted by Parkway & Rockwood Superintendents (any judging will occur in HS as to recommendation from HS), is a Stellar Green Youth Team opportunity. Extend ‘possibilitarianism.’ Discussion followed. Consider a more business oriented ‘outreach.’ Our grant would cover lunches and transportation. Certificate for a possible internship. Libbey discussed issues with Monsanto contacts and they were lukewarm to the idea. Su mentioned that Monsanto has a large formal internship program for college-trained students but for HS kids that training (limited exposure to real-world scientists and labs), timing of program, and insurance issues were obstacles to the success of program we are considering. From her real world experience as a research scientist it does not sound like this program would be successful given the constraints. Dr. Hutchins/Pfizer is making inquiries into possibilities.
3. MRC Letter of Support: Libbey reported MRC asked for a letter of support for grants proposals they are submitting. Their costs have risen dramatically and they will have to charge for second TVs from each individual donor. Proper recyclers and leaded glass from CRTs were their concerns.

F. Brochures/Flyers

1. ***Without Plants, We’re TOAST brochure update*** – Darcy, Bob.
 - a. Draft Due at January Meeting. Bob reported that he and Darcy had recently completed a first draft and were hard at work on producing a final draft for the CCE. They fully expect to be finished by the deadline.

G. 24th Annual Chesterfield Earth Day, Sat., April 25, 2015 – Darcy, Jeanne C., Libbey.

1. 2014 Trees Selections. Discussion from Jeanne on CCE vote via email. Shumard oak was selected as street tree. Twelve trees were selected with ten as our first choices and two in reserve if any of the first ten aren’t

available: Blackgum, American beautyberry, Blackhaw, Carolina buckthorn, Deciduous holly, Silky dogwood, Elderberry, Golden currant, Smooth Sumac, and Shumard oak. Should any of the above not be available, please substitute with either Shortleaf pine or Aromatic sumac.

2. Darcy requested that we turn in Vendors' contact information to James...starting now.
3. Darcy asked Libbey if we have a plan for Youth STEMR Exhibits at Chesterfield Mall. Not yet.

H. **NWF** – Darcy reported that the next Teleconference is scheduled for 12/9.

Discussed the CFM Magazine article on NWF's conservation service award.

- a. Jeanne T. reported Chesterfield Elementary School update had their honeysuckle removal event last Saturday and cleared out several areas; set up three rain barrels; started composting appropriate foods in bins in cafeteria. A question was raised about what they will do with resulting product. Darcy reported that the grant application with DoI was submitted by School. Need to ask about national board certification for Elizabeth Hlavaty.

I. **18th America/Missouri/Chesterfield Recycles Event, RECAP**

1. Libbey reported that a Chesterfield black woman resident complained that she had been discriminated against at the paper shredding venue because she was turned away when white people who arrived later had their paper accepted for shredding. City of Chesterfield paid \$100 for her paper to be shredded at her house. We need to rigorously enforce the **NO LONGER ACCEPTING PAPER** determination when that point in time is reached. Need to let people know that it's first-come first-served and that once the limit has been reached, that's it. Period. Reset a five box limit on paper. Have a well-defined time and process for accepting confidential documents, from 9:00 to Noon, *after which no paper is accepted for shredding from anyone*. Also we may need to cut paper acceptance off early for volume or weather considerations. Su reported that she contacted a number of friends who came and thought the event was well organized. We will not collect expired prescriptions next year. Libbey will ask DEA as to how we can proceed. No paint or hazardous waste will be collected. We need to improve the info provided on our website.
2. Modification of Hours: 9:00 to Noon.
3. Layout. Jeanne reported that we need to relocate various vendors, especially Habitat and Remains. Should have a lot more space at the Mall next year.
4. Vendors: Darcy reported that the vendors should stay until end (unless they have reached their capacity) and we must guarantee acceptance of items until end time.
5. Volunteers.
 - a. Organizers want to help at Earth Day. Establish a deadline for volunteering – with names, organization names. We were sort of

overwhelmed by the number of Girl Scouts who showed up.
Appreciated help from CES from students and teachers.

- b. Staggering times for volunteers may help, depending on numbers of volunteers.
 - c. Rotate duties. Ensure Breaks
 - d. Emailing the layout 'plan' to everyone beforehand allowed for fluidity per GS Leaders and Teachers.
 - e. Could get fabric from Charity-Sharity to make "arm bands" for various types of volunteers at events: CCE, Adults with Outreach, Girl Scouts, etc. No real need.
- 6. Vendor Metrics: James reported through email that MRC and Cintas were up and the rest were essentially the same.
 - 7. Zip code metrics: James reported this that about 87% of people who recycled were from Chesterfield (63017 and 63005) with about 27 other zip codes represented.

J. **BiodiverseCity St. Louis update:** Bob E. said he had nothing to report this month.

K. **Light Green Supper 12/18:** Polly R. reported that we should use last year's materials.

L. **Tree Wall – other materials to finish?** – Libbey will work with Chesterfield Mall on Earth Day details.

M. **Other.**

III. Calendar: Dec. meeting on THIRD THURSDAY. Light/Green Holiday Supper (Thank You, Polly!)

IV. Next Meeting: December 18, 2014, 6:30 P.M., City Hall – Rms. # 101/2. End of Year Metrics. First meeting in 2015 is January 27, 2015! Happy Holidays.