

DRAFT MINUTES
Saint Anthony Park Community Council
Environment Committee
Hybrid meeting, via Zoom and at Zvago St. Anthony Park

Present: Lisa Habeck, Michael Russelle (co-chair), Patricia Ohmans, Kerry Morgan, Corey Butler, Ryan Murphy, Manu Junemann, Betty Wheeler (visitor)

Regrets: Karlyn Eckman, Bill Anderson, Val Cervenka, Lizzy Logas-Lindstrom, Rennie Gaither, Aaron Hinz

Land Acknowledgment: Michael

Approval of June minutes (attached): Moved by Patricia, seconded by Corey, approved unanimously

Ice Cream Social - 2 to 5 pm, September 17 - Michael

- To be held at Hampton Park, way for people to get to know one another and the SAPCC
- Each committee has specific responsibilities
- We are responsible for the ice cream, getting it through the co-op, may need help serving and picking up more food
- EC will have its own table, info and photos about what we do, invitations to join in the meeting
- We will have info as it is Preparedness Month, good to hear messages about coordinating people and vehicles, fire trucks, ambulance, police, Ramsey County emergency response van (Bill & Rennie are trained in CERT)
- Who is willing and able to be at event and help out? Corey, Kerry, Lisa (maybe)
- Patricia could help with the print materials about the Environment Committee and publicity (Facebook, Instagram, etc.)
- Kerry has photos of events and doorhangers to share
- Zero waste event

Cleveland Avenue - Michael

- Communication with the County
 - Three weeks since we asked for meeting, said they would get back to us, no response
 - Found info we had been asking for on open data site, such as the request for bids for the contractors and engineering drawings
 - Receiving data dumps; there are hundreds of emails to look through
- Tree replacement recommendations - ad hoc group of Corey, Ryan, Karlyn, Karen Williams, Rennie, and Lizzy

- Preliminary draft, not sure if there can be big trees or not, white pine is not a typical boulevard tree
- Want to provide the County with more options than 6 species, have not given any thought about placement or mixes of different species
- Want SAPCC to be able to influence how Cleveland looks
- The county asked for species, not sure when they will be ordered
- The street will have salt, so anything we suggest needs to be salt tolerant
- Probably delivery in spring, need to put in order in the fall
- Desire for the trees to be native

Chimney Swift tower - Karlyn

- Hold up with production, need angle irons to set in the concrete footing
- Patricia can offer expertise of Daniel (last name?), who was the person who constructed the one at Frogtown

Rain Garden update - Kerry & Val

- Val and Kerry reached out to Matt Wildenauer, who was recommended by Stephen Mastey, and he is very interested in being a contractor to improve the Raymond/Ellis rain garden; Matt has already worked on it in a volunteer capacity—he planted the blue flag iris that is doing well
- The Raymond/Bayless rain garden has terrible drainage, needs major overhaul, not just maintenance
- CRWD will reimburse us up to \$2K, but we have to have a 50% match is required, cash or in-kind
- If we weed/clean up litter, that counts as \$25 an hour per person (2K match would mean 80 total hours of labor)
- We can ask for donations, such as have a pot at the ice cream social and ask for donations for rain garden maintenance
- Might need to order plants soon, esp. if wholesale
- Next steps are to have Matt identify what species, what type of work needs to be done, share plan and budget with committee by next meeting?

TC Boulevard letter - Michael

- SAPCC supports the general letter, but would like to make sure that the re-envisioning of I-94 includes hydrology, affordable housing
- Michael will look it over the letter again and send it out to the other committees and have a final version to present to the Board for final approval
- Manu volunteered to look it over

Westgate Park - Michael

- One long block away from Franklin and Emerald
- Now seeded, some mix, no irrigation
- Lots of trees, sidewalks through the park

- Will put in the playground equipment this fall
- Bill Anderson and the Equity Committee will take the lead in organizing the party that will take place this fall
- There are three stormwater retention areas
- The park is being used by the neighbors already!

100 Trees update – Manu and Michael

- Ben Shardlow mentioned that they need a water wagon – \$8K needed
- Davey Landscaping is helping with watering
- Very high temperatures are hard on the trees, need 1 in. every 4 days
- Manu has been watering the ones near her building
- Waterbags could be an option, but they empty in approx. 4 hours and cost \$20-30 each
- Last year's trees also need water
- Need water for at least 3 years
- What about the dead trees that were planted, are they going to be taking them down?

Community Environmental Learning Center – Michael

- Robbins is south of the railroad, by the community gardens and connects to Territorial
- Lots of people speed through there; homeless people camp out there in the woods; some crime going on in the apartments
- Bill sees opportunity as we own the community gardens and the restored prairie, and woods done by the railroad, and Kasota Ponds not too far, part of hydrologically connected wetlands, he thinks we should start a community environmental learning center, include the U as it is near the transitway, see the gardens and the prairies, make it more populated by visitors, slow traffic, more eyes on the street; there could be federal money for this; Bill has lots of knowledge and connections; he wants to present the sketches for it

Google Drive – Kerry

- Proposal to use Google Drive as a depository
- Kerry sent an email to Jessica asking if SAPCC had a way of archiving committee activities, had not yet heard back
- Kerry has made a SAPCC Environment Committee Google Drive if anyone wants her to share it
- Could be useful, but might not be for everyone
- Would be a good place to put documents that are too long to share
- There could be size limitations

Other business:

Tour of WestRock Recycling - Manu

- The GM, Mike Gunderson, asked for three dates in September

- Would be best to know what would work for people, need to send out a Doodle poll; Michael will send one out
- Manu is concerned as it is still smells even after they implemented some remediation
- Jill from Urban Growler also wanted to go on the tour; reach out to other breweries (Lake Monster) and restaurants too?

Discussion about where to meet moving forward

- Manu suggested a community room at her apartment building
- Library is an option, but they close at 8 p.m.
- Proposal to meet 6 to 8 p.m.; Michael will send out a Doodle poll to see if all committee members are in agreement

Next meeting – Wednesday, August 24, location and time TBD

Adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kerry Morgan