

Keep Moline Beautiful

Meeting Minutes – October 11, 2012
Held at Moline Public Works

Attended by: Kristen Bergren, Lori Turner, Susan Wolf, Mary Lind, Rodd Schick, Marcia Lintz and Lynn Garrison. Also in attendance were Augustana College students: Connor Cummings, Allison Nagy and Amy Knourek.

Kristen Bergren called the meeting to order.

Motion to accept the minutes of the August 9th, 2012 meeting was made and seconded. Motion carried.

Rodd Schick welcomed the visiting Augustana students who were attending as an assignment for their political science course.

Rodd will change the KMB committee meeting time back to the 4:30pm to accommodate members' schedules.

Old Business:

- Garden Guardians: Rodd Schick reported that the September 13th Garden Guardian Recognition Event was a big success with Garden Guardians well-represented and Parks and Recreation board members and the director stopping by to thank the Guardians for their efforts. Rodd reminded the committee that the visibility of citizens in the community volunteering their time to improve the City can have positive repercussions beyond the intended program outcomes; Rodd attributes the reduction in vandalism and graffiti on the benches in the Ben Butterworth Parkway to the Garden Guardian program and the presence of these volunteers in the gardens. Mary Lind reported that two new people would like to take on gardens next spring and Rodd noted that new benches have been installed this fall.

Committee Reports:

- Cool Cities: Kristen informed the committee that the Cool Cities initiative agreements expire in 2012 and cities are asked to sign on again to continue to implement clean energy solutions that save money and help curb a city's carbon footprint. Rodd said that Mayor Welvaert has already signed the new agreement and all required paperwork has been turned in.
- America Recycles Day/Recycling Education: Kristen informed the committee that the first of two KMB-sponsored recycling education contests will be for K-2 grades in Moline schools. Kristen and Lynn Garrison came up with an idea for kids to decorate newspaper swags with recyclables or decorations made from recycled material etc... Kristen volunteered to get a flyer out to the K-2 district teachers about the contest and Lynn volunteered to make the undecorated swags to distribute to participating classrooms. Allison Nagy suggested that fashion made out of recyclables might be another idea for a future contest. Allison also recommended a series of childrens' books by Ellie Bethel called Michael Recycle as possible additions to the KMB recycling education kits.
- Adopt a Park and Street: many neighborhood groups have been organizing Fall cleanups and have been contacting the City to arrange the pickups.
- XStream Cleanup: was successful with 60 volunteers working at four Moline locations.
- College Projects: Connor Cummings, Allison Nagy and Amy Knourek informed the committee that if the City needs volunteers for projects, there are Augustana student organizations that would like to help. Amy explained that members of Augustana's service fraternity, Lambda Rho, are required to volunteer 20 hours per semester. Connor suggested that the Augustana Athletes Giving Back members would be another good resource for volunteer workers too. Amy will inquire with service fraternity members to see if there is an Augustana student who would like to serve on the KMB committee.
- Great American Cleanup: No news.
- Join Hands Day: No news.
- Arbor Day: No news.
- Neighborhood Partnership: No news.

New Business:

- A call for nominations for the Keep Moline Beautiful-sponsored Moline Recycle Super Hero

Award appeared in local media in early October and several nominations have already been submitted.

- Rodd Schick will attend the National Keep America Beautiful conference in Washington, D.C in January 2013.
- Plans are already underway for the 2013 Earth Week Fair in April. This year the Fair will be held on Thursday and Friday only.
- Rodd will contact a MidAmerican Energy representative to visit an upcoming KMB meeting to speak to the committee about the idea of electric aggregation power plans.
- Rodd reported that the City of Moline is a finalist for the Illinois Governor's Sustainability Award and he will attend the ceremony in Oak Brook on November 9th, 2012 with Mayor Welvaert.
- Rodd reported that much work has been completed around the City in Green Valley Nature Preserve and Sylvan Island Gateway Park. Partnering with John Deere, the City worked on beautification, invasive species removal and bench and sign installation at both sites.

Lori Turner made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded. Motion carried.
Next Meeting will be at 4:30pm, Thursday, November 8th, 2012.

Submitted by Susan Wolf, Temporary Secretary, Keep Moline Beautiful Commission.