

**City of Madison Heights
Environmental Citizen's Committee (ECC)
Regular Meeting Agenda
Executive Conference Room – City Hall
300 West 13 Mile Road
April 14, 2022 @ 10:00 a.m.**

- AGENDA -

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call and Excuse Absences (if applicable)
3. Meeting Open to the Public
4. New Business
 - A. Approval of Minutes – November 11, 2021
 - B. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda
 - C. Tree Program
 - a. General Update
 - D. Current Projects
 - a. Recycling Program
 - i. Apartment Recycling
 - ii. Possible Cart Program
 - b. The Bloom Project
 - i. Current/Future Planting Projects
 - E. Financial Update - Escrow Account/Fundraising
5. Other Business
 - a. Arbor Day Celebration
 - b. Wyland Water Challenge
6. Adjournment

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
November 11, 2021

A Regular Meeting of the Environmental Citizens Committee was held on Thursday, November 11, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. in the Municipal Building at 300 West Thirteen Mile Road, Madison Heights, Michigan.

Present: Chairman Salley and Members: Ms. Bartleman, Councilman Fleming (voting member @ 10:56 a.m.), Ms. N. Fox and Councilor Rohrbach (left @ 10:56 a.m.)

Absent: Ms. C. Fox, Ms. Haines and Vice-Chair Lee

Also Present: Public Works Supervisor Ballantine, City Manager Marsh and Deputy City Clerk Boucher

21-75. Excuse members.

Motion by Ms. Bartleman, seconded by Councilor Rohrbach, to excuse Ms. C. Fox, Ms. Haines and Vice-Chair Lee from today's meeting.

Yea: N. Fox, Rohrbach, Ms. Bartleman and Salley
Nay: None
Absent: C. Fox, Haines and Lee
Motion Carried.

21-76. Meeting Open to the Public.

There were no members of the public wishing to speak.

21-77. Minutes.

Motion by Councilor Rohrbach, seconded by Ms. Bartleman, to adopt the minutes from the Regular Meeting of September 9, 2021 as printed.

Yea: Rohrbach, Ms. Bartleman, N. Fox and Salley
Nay: None
Absent: C. Fox, Haines and Lee
Motion Carried.

21-78. Tree Program.

General Update

Public Works Supervisor Ballantine gave an update that the memorial trees and spare trees are being planted tomorrow. The 50 trees from the Right-of-Way Tree Program will be planted next week. The OakStem Grant trees are expected to be planted before Thanksgiving and the 40 trees in the DDA District are expected to be planted after November. In the next couple of weeks, 150-200 trees will be planted by Marine City Nursery around the City. Public Works Supervisor Ballantine responded to Councilor Rohrbach's inquiry that the trees purchased from the nursery are 2" in trunk diameter and a total of 403 trees will be planted by the end of 2021. DPS and DTE will be trimming trees North of 11 Mile and East of John R in January. The City was denied the Urban and Community Forestry Grant, but they have the Great Lakes Restoration Grant to offset the tree planting program. The spring planting is scheduled for the month of March or April.

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21-79. Current Projects.

Residential Composting

City Manager Marsh spoke about Midtown Composting offering services for 500 – 1,000 residential customers. The City has discussed buying compost buckets in bulk to encourage composting but there are concerns with rat problems. The City, therefore, may require residents to complete a free composting education class if they buy a compost bucket.

Public Works Supervisor Ballantine added there is a one-time cost of \$5 for the compost bucket and a monthly fee of \$16 per residential customer. He mentioned that the solid waste contract with GFL is expiring in June 2025.

Ms. Bartleman volunteers at SOCCWA and shared they offer free education classes on composting. She briefly compared the benefits of the tumbling composter bins and the stationary compost bins.

The members further discussed individual and contract composting, recycling videos, education campaign and SOCRRA.

Recycling Programs

Public Works Supervisor Ballantine said that although our ordinance states there is mandatory recycling, it is not enforced. At one time, every apartment in the City had a recycling center and sign. Over the years, these recycling centers and signs have been removed for various reasons. Recently, numerous tenants at the apartments have been calling about recycling. Public Works Supervisor Ballantine asked if the current recycling sub-committee would like to verify existing recycling centers and to reestablish one if none is available at each apartment complexes in the City. The recycling centers are included in our contract with GFL.

City Manager Marsh spoke regarding use of the Quality of Life Grant funds to purchase large recycling bins from GFL at a discount for the Recycling Bin Giveaway.

The members further discussed survey questions for the recycling center, recycling education program, recycling brochure and solid waste.

Seed Library

Ms. N. Fox volunteered to take over the Seed Library from former ECC member Eve Sandoval. For the plant sale, she stated that she set up grab and go bags at her house for people to pick up. There is a bin at the Library for people to donate seeds to the Seed Library.

21-80. Financial Update.

City Manager Marsh updated members that the escrow balance is \$8,748 including the \$500 for Arbor Day 2022 and \$1,250 for signs and plantings from the Quality of Life Grant.

21-81. Meeting Frequency

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Public Works Supervisor Ballantine stated that monthly meetings seem too frequent, every other month and quarterly seem to accomplish the same amount of business and the board can always call for a special meeting if necessary. He recommends a quarterly meeting for efficiency of time.

Ms. Bartleman is in favor of doing quarterly board meetings and for the sub-committees to meet as needed to push forward the agenda.

Motion by Ms. Bartleman, seconded by Chair Salley, to approve the meeting frequency to a quarterly basis.

Yea: Bartleman, Fleming and Salley
Nays: None
Abstain: N. Fox
Absent: C. Fox, Haines, Lee and Rohrbach
Motion Carried.

21-82. Other Business.

Chair Salley inquired about a City ordinance regarding littering because of the concern of peddlers at the median on John R and 14 Mile Road.

Public Works Supervisor Ballantine said between DPS, the Police Department and City Council they have not found a solution for the littering concern.

Ms. Bartleman added there are concerns of peddlers littering at 11 Mile and the Service Drive.

City Manager Marsh will send an email to the board members to ask for volunteers for the recycling subcommittee.

21-83. Adjournment.

There being no further business, Chairman Salley adjourned the meeting at 11:12 a.m. Next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 13, 2022 at 10 a.m. at the City Hall.

Phommady A. Boucher
Deputy City Clerk