

MINUTES
ENVIRONMENTAL CITIZENS COMMITTEE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES BUILDING
April 04, 2000

I. CALL TO ORDER - Meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dottie Clinton	John Gum	Gary Louchart
Len Kwapis	Rita Marston	Linda Corbett
Yvette Ploskonka	Margene Scott	Clement Skowronski
Jack Widger		

ABSENT

Linda Kahler

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. Solid Waste Bids

Presentation by Republic – Stephanie Glysson

- John Gum – What about extra garbage?
- Len Kwapis – Where do you put the container?
- Rita – What about recycling & Compost?
- Clem – What about HHW?
- Len – How close does the driver
Grass
- Gary – Will grass be acceptable in this container?
- Len – What if a kid steals or mutilates the cart?
- Jack – Does it make a difference which way the can faces?
- Linda – What problems in other states?
- Rita – safety – with children?
- Stephanie – Possible camera on back of truck.
- Pam – Aesthetically
Senior Citizen having to drag it out.
- Len – Where else are you doing this?
- Pam – What about snow?
- Len – The economy – what about the contract extension?
- Dottie – What about carpet?
- Linda – What about displaced jobs?
- Len – What about a change in law – will that affect?
- Rita – What Landfill do you own?
- 7:40 p.m. Gary – Call the question.
- Linda – I don't like it at all – too rigid – you can't put out more – Senior Citizen.
- Dottie – Against it.
- Rita – Where are you going to store it?

- Margene – Largely against it – Seniors – Handicapped?
- Clem – Hard for Seniors – too bulky.
- Jack – against it – don’t know enough about it – Communities
- Jack – Wouldn’t want to store it in the back yard.
- Len – Think its okay – should try a trial.
Seniors and Handicapped same as now – review contract in 5 years. Same as now with garbage cans that stay out.
- Yvette – Would prefer 64 gallons – lids is on it – crows get in it, this can is much more pleasing – Seniors drag cans now.
- John – If we did 64 gallon container – automated helps them, not me. Its real cost savings to us. If it is the way trash is going any bidder will come back to us.
- Gary – Placement of cans. Limit is an issue. \$1 per year per home – not worth it – leave me alone.
- Len – Troy has a trial plan for collection using these cans.
- Pam – No – with our small homes obtrusive – Seniors – taking large.
- Yvette – issues with Police not doing anything about No Parking on Garbage Day.

Motion by Margene Scott, Supported by Gary Louchart to deny.

Ayes: Dottie Clinton, John Gum, Gary Louchart, Rita Marston, Linda Corbett, , Margene Scott, Clement Skowronski, Jack Widger

Nays: Len Kwapis, and Yvette Ploskonka

IV. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

- Pam –
1. St. John’s Oakland Incinerator Health Care without Harm.
William Mott said they would stop incinerating in August.
 - 2.
 3. Article in newspaper on SOCRRA

V. COMMITTEE COMMENTS

- Motion by Gary Louchart, supported by John Gum E.C.C. Ordinance

Ayes: All

- Chairperson – Move to name Peter Connors at interim Chair.

Motion by Margene Scott, Supported by Yvette Ploskonka

Ayes: All

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Gary Louchart, Supported by Yvette Ploskonka to adjourn, meeting adjourned.

**MINUTES
ENVIRONMENTAL CITIZENS COMMITTEE
HELD AT THE YOUTH DROP IN CENTER
February 20, 2001**

TOUR OF YOUTH DROP IN CENTER

I. CALL TO ORDER - Meeting was called to order at 6:50 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dottie Clinton	Linda Corbett	Len Kwapis
Rita Marston	Jack Widger	Yvette Ploskonka
Clement Skowronski		

ABSENT

John Gum	Gary Louchart	Linda Kahler
Kim Hodson	Margene Scott, excused called.	

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. It was decided that the video on Storm Water Pollution would be played at the next meeting.
2. There was a discussion on the County Solid Waste Master Plan.
3. Discussion on GWK Drain.
4. Discussion on SOCRRA.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

**MINUTES
ENVIRONMENTAL CITIZENS COMMITTEE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE BUILDING
SEPTEMBER 17, 2002**

I. CALL TO ORDER - Meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dottie Clinton	Margene Scott	Len Kwapis
Rita Marston	Jack Widger	Yvette Ploskonka
Richard Le Page		

ABSENT

Gary Louchart	Linda Corbett	Kim Hodson
Clement Skowronski		

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. Update was given on SOCRRA
2. Discussion on West Nile Virus
 - a. Several comments made regarding swimming pool covers, wooded areas – standing water, etc
 - b. Talked about private catch basins – can the City treat?
 - c. Richard Le Page asked about setting traps and then target spraying.
 - d. Margene Scott talked about National Conference to send someone to – Mosquito University. Also, discussed a Town meeting to address concerns with experts.
 - e. Richard Le Page asked about signs at the Parks – Wear insect repellent.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned motion by Margene Scott, supported by Jack Widger to adjourn at 8:35 p.m.

**MINUTES
ENVIRONMENTAL CITIZENS COMMITTEE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE BUILDING
FEBRUARY 20, 2003**

I. CALL TO ORDER - Meeting was called to order at 6:38 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dottie Clinton	Len Kwapis	Rita Marston
Margene Scott	Clement Skowronski	Jack Widger
Richard Le Page		

ABSENT

Gary Louchart	Linda Corbett	Kim Hodson
Yvette Ploskonka		

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion on Emerald Ash Borer
 - a. Test chemical on some trees – specimens
 - b. Notify residents in newsletter, etc.
 - c. Send notice to all of our RV'ers who have a permit at lot regarding firewood (Emerald Ash Borer).

Motion by Jack Widger to follow City recommended plan, supported by Rita Marston.
Ayes: All

2. Discussion on West Nile Virus
 - a. County money.
 - b. City plans – in Newsletter

Motion by Jack Widger, supported by Richard Le Page to use County funding for West Nile prevention and follow recommended City plan.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

MINUTES
ENVIRONMENTAL CITIZENS COMMITTEE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE BUILDING
OCTOBER 20, 2004

I. CALL TO ORDER - Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dottie Clinton	Susan Murphy	Len Kwapis
Rita Marston	Clement Skowronski	Yvette Ploskonka
Richard Le Page	Jack Widger	Andrew Ekstrom

ABSENT

Kim Hodson	Linda Corbett	Gary Louchart
Margene Scott		

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. West Nile Virus
 - Two positives in late August.
 - Committee wants the City to continue with briquets.
2. Emerald Ash Borer –
 - 430 Ash trees taken down this year .
 - Will need to take down another 800.
3. Electronics Recycle
 - It is expensive.
 - Retailers ought to take back similar to bottle bill, tires, batteries.
4. SOCRRA
 - Still in Court.
5. Alternative Water Source
 - Working with other communities on feasibility of a new water source other than DWSD.
6. Red Run Watershed – GWK
 - Scheduled to open January 2006.
7. 50th Anniversary
 - Events are planned.

IV.COMMITTEE COMMENTS

1. Lush Lawn Video and Recycling stuff for historic update.
2. Spring City Newsletter – picture of garbage, compost, and recycling separated.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Next Meeting April 2005

MINUTES
ENVIRONMENTAL CITIZENS COMMITTEE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES BUILDING
FEBRUARY 23, 2006

I. CALL TO ORDER – Meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL -

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dottie Clinton	Linda Corbett
Margene Scott	Andrew Ekstrom
Gary Louchart	Jack Widger
Yvette Ploskonka	Clement Skowronski
Len Kwapis	Rita Marston

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Kimberly Hodson	Linda Corbett
Susan Murphy	Richard LePage

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. Introduction of Ben Myers – New Deputy City Manager
2. Discussion of status of Emerald Ash Borer.
 - a. 2006 should be the last of a 3-year plan to take down dead Ash trees. State grants have helped and Madison Heights was the first to use the State bid for tree removal contractor.
The City has sent out letters to homeowners from 12 Mile to 14 mile with dead trees on their private property.
3. Discussion of West Nile Virus.
 - a. Oakland County will continue with the \$12,000 grant to the City this year.
The city will continue to treat every catch basin and mark them and treat open waters.
Residents need to continue to use personal protection.
4. Discussion of SOCRRA Settlement.
 - a. The City has settled its lawsuit with SOCRRA for \$500,000. The City will continue to pay 8.75% of all future bills relating to the SOCRRA landfill closure and maintenance in Rochester Hills for the next 30 years.
5. Ben discussed the future potential of Electronic Recycling.

IV. The Committee thanked Pete Connors for working with the Committee.

V. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

**MINUTES - ENVIRONMENTAL CITIZENS COMMITTEE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES BUILDING
801 AJAX DRIVE
Wednesday, August 12, 2009**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Time: 5:45 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL & INTRODUCTIONS

Linda Corbett - Absent	Jeffrey Phillips - Present
Andrew Ekstrom - Present	Yvette Ploskonka - Absent
Kyle Geraldts - Present	Margene A. Scott - Absent
Leonard Kwapis - Present	Dean Wakeland - Present
Gary Louchart - Present	Jack Widger - Present
Daniel Milz - Absent	Tina Zuber – Present
James Owens - Present	

Also Present: Craig Hennigan, Ben Myers, Andy Kozlowski, and Damian Foster

Ben expressed Margene Scott's regret at not being able to attend and that she wanted the Committee to know she's very interested in the work of the Committee, and looking forward to attending future meetings.

III. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

Motion by Jeff Phillips, Supported by Len Kwapis to postpone election of chairperson to allow all Committee Members to have input.

Substitute Motion by Kyle Geraldts to elect Jeff Phillips as Chairperson – Motion dies for lack of support.

Vote on Original Motion.

Ayes: Unanimous

Nays: None

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion of Potential Projects for ECC Involvement.

1. Apartment Recycling Education

Ben discussed the difficulty in getting decent recycling participation and avoiding co-mingling of recyclables and refuse in the City's apartment complexes, many of which are multi-cultural with different languages spoken. Committee members suggested use of universally signed labels for what does and doesn't belong and straightforward flyers based on the City Calendar recycling page. Benchmarking our desired goals may also be helpful.

2. Energy Project Assistance through Senior Home Assistance Repair Program (SHARP).

Ben presented background information on the SHARP repair assistance program, and discussed the possibility of adding simple energy efficiency improvements (e.g. CF light bulb changing) to their services.

3. Other Ideas.

i. Community Garden presentation – Rev. Taylor

Since Rev. Taylor was unable to attend, Craig Hennigan presented the concept and plans for a Cooperative Garden on church property as a means of bringing the community together. The goals include sustainable agriculture and providing quality food for disadvantaged people. The group is meeting every two weeks on Wednesdays, and is looking for volunteers and materials. They want it to be self-sustaining and are planning for next year's season. A Farmer's Market with low cost food and the sale of small plots inside the garden are concepts being discussed to help keep the garden sustainable. Tina suggested flyers at the Senior Center, and contacting REI for possible grant funding.

ii. Community Education – Rain Barrels

Ben advised the Committee that since the adoption of the new Irrigation Ordinance, there has been some interest in rain barrels to irrigate gardens and plants. James discussed the rain barrel that he uses at home. Gary brought up the need to prevent mosquitoes from hatching. James suggested a bottle cap of bleach and Kyle suggested goldfish and vegetable oil to prevent mosquitoes in rain barrels. Ben commented that he would pass on any literature regarding upcoming Clinton River Watershed Council Rain Barrels or Sales and to promote them through the City website, cable channel, etc. He also noted that the workshops are generally free and local. Tina asked if the City could host a Workshop or rain barrel sale, but Ben replied that we didn't have the resources to do that.

Dean suggested the City look at "green" ordinances allowing for voluntary installation of wind turbines and solar panels. He provided information from the City of Cincinnati to be distributed to the Committee.

B. Review of Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Contract Status.

Ben reviewed the status of the current Waste Management Contract, which expires June 30, 2010. He commented that all options are on the table and that the Committee's input will be solicited. Statistics on tonnage, and cost were distributed, and the Committee discussed meeting again in the fall on this topic. Dean discussed the Cash for Trash option (info to be distributed).

C. Review of Status of SOCRRA Transfer Station Property.

Ben commented that the SOCRRA transfer station is closed and only serves as a backup for their Troy facility or for seasonal use (e.g. leaves, x-mas trees). Len asked if the City has received odor complaints during leaf season, which we have not. Several SOCRRA contractor trucks have been ticked for being overweight. SOCRRA has retained a consultant to help them complete a future use study for the facility. The City continues to pay its 8.75% share of Environmental Liabilities for the Rochester Hills Landfill, as required under the Consent Judgment. Ben also noted that the emergency siren has been relocated from the SOCRRA building.

V. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Damian Foster commented about fireworks not being environmentally friendly and that in New York, the local power companies are installing above ground street light wiring to avoid the expense of underground burial of cable.

VI. COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Craig Hennigan remarked that he was very pleased to see the Committee reactivated as he and others had requested, and looks forward to working with the group in the future.

A. Establishment of Committee Meeting Schedule.

Motion by Gary, Supported by Tina to meet again in the fall of 2009, and quarterly thereafter throughout the duration of the Solid Waste Contract process, and then as needed.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Next Meeting Scheduled for Fall 2009

**MINUTES - ENVIRONMENTAL CITIZENS COMMITTEE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES BUILDING
801 AJAX DRIVE
Wednesday, October 28, 2009**

I. Call to Order

Time: 5:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call & Introductions

Linda Corbett - Absent	Jeffrey Phillips - Absent
Andrew Ekstrom - Present	Yvette Ploskonka - Present
Kyle Geraldts - Present	Margene A. Scott - Present
Leonard Kwapis - Absent	Dean Wakeland - Present
Gary Louchart - Absent	Jack Widger - Present
Daniel Milz - Present	Tina Zuber - Absent
James Owens - Present	

Also Present: Patrick Greve, Community & Municipal Relations Representative for Waste Management.

III. New Business

Mr. Greve reviewed his printed presentation which included a discussion of current services and contractual rates, corporate programs and “green” innovations such as “e-cycling”, Waste Management’s “Lamp Tracker” program for florescent lamps and mercury recycling, and their Solar Powered Trash Compactor. He also reviewed Waste Management’s Landfill Gas to Energy program.

Mr. Greve also commented on electronic waste or, “e-waste” regulations in effect on April 11, 2010, and suggested in response to Committee questions that the City may want to look at the solar powered trash compactors for future use, although there is a high up-front cost of approximately \$3,000 per can that could be amortized over a long-range contract.

In response to Committee questions, Mr. Greve also discussed Rochester Hills’ “Recycle Bank” program. He commented that one major problem there is the fact that the rebates are not calculated based on actual tonnage per household, but rather are prorated among all who participate in the program.

The Committee also received from Mr. Myers and Mr. Greve statistics on complaints/requests for service, trash/compost/recycling tonnages in Madison Heights, and an MDEQ FAQ sheet on the new e-waste regulations.

IV. Meeting Open to the Public

The Committee welcomed Gary Louchart’s grandson to the meeting.

V. Committee Comments /Other Business

Mr. Myers and Mr. Greve discussed the proposed State Legislation to authorize qualified “landfill energy production facilities” to accept yard waste for conversion to landfill gas that generates electricity or a direct fuel use, or is a substitute for converted fuels. The MML is in support of the legislation, which could ultimately lower costs for municipalities.

Motion by Owens, Supported by Wakeland, to recommend that City Council adopt the proposed Resolution of Support of Senate Bill 725/House Bill 5334.

Ayes: Unanimous

Nays: None

VI. Adjournment

**MINUTES - ENVIRONMENTAL CITIZENS COMMITTEE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES BUILDING
801 AJAX DRIVE
Wednesday, December 16, 2009**

I. Call to Order

Time: 5:39 p.m.

II. Roll Call & Introductions

Present:

Kyle Gerald
Craig Hennigan
Leonard Kwapis
Gary Louchart
Jeffrey Phillips
Yvette Ploskonka
Dean Wakeland
Jack Widger

Absent:

Linda Corbett
Andrew Ekstrom
Daniel Milz
James Owens
Tina Zuber

Also Present: Ben Myers, Charles (Chuck) Rizzo Jr. and Don Barretta from Rizzo Services.

III. New Business

Chuck Rizzo and Don Barretta of Rizzo Services gave a presentation on their company's solid waste collection and disposal services. Noting that they've never seen prices increase as a result of bidding, they strongly recommended that the City go out for bids at the end of the current agreement, as a cost savings measure. They do not favor a fuel surcharge provision, but said that some municipalities like splitting out the cost.

The Committee and Rizzo representatives also reviewed the current recycling program and options that other municipalities are considering. Chuck and Don do not believe that automated or semi-automated recycling pick up would benefit Madison Heights as the carts are bulkier and heavier, they are designed for larger lots and communities with wildlife issues, and they are more expensive. They also noted that there would not be a large anticipated cost savings from bi-weekly recycling. In regard to "cash for trash" programs, they commented that while well intentioned, the programs have not been successful, noting that Republic actually owns the Recycle Bank program.

In response to a Committee question, Chuck and Don assured the group that even though Rizzo Services is not a landfill owner/operator, they have contractually guaranteed access to many landfills and the Detroit Incinerator such that there would never be a disposal issue.

The Committee thanked Chuck and Don for their very informative presentation. (Mr. Rizzo and Mr. Barretta then left.)

Ben reviewed that the City is preparing a Request for Proposals (RFP) that is expected to be issued in January.

Based on the overall goal of cost savings, the Committee's general consensus was that a simplified RFP process would be best, and the City should not look at expanded automated or semi-automated recycling services due to cost. Ben advised that once the bids are in and analyzed by staff, the ECC will meet again to review and make a recommendation.

IV. **Meeting Open to the Public** - No comments.

V. **Committee Comments /Other Business**

Ben updated the committee on the recent \$138,000 Energy Grant submittal, stating that a decision is expected in late January. He also advised the group that the Southeast Regional Energy Office; of which the city is a member, just submitted another larger Department of Energy grant that could provide as much as \$5 million of support to the non-entitlement member communities.

Committee Member Hennigan requested that the City provide electronic packets to those members with e-mail. Ben circulated a sheet to collect e-mail addresses:

Craig Hennigan craighennigan@gmail.com
Kyle Geraldts kylegeraldts@madison-heights.org
Andy Wakeland awakeland@giffelswebster.com
Jeff Phillips wmuasig@gmail.com
Gary Louchart garyl3@comcast.net
James Owens jamestowens@yahoo.com

Motion by Louchart, Supported by Hennigan to amend the earlier August 12, 2009 motion to require that 2/3 or more of voting committee members be present to elect a Chairperson.

Ayes: Unanimous
Nays: None

VI. **Adjournment**

Motion by Louchart, Supported by Phillips to adjourn

Ayes: Unanimous
Nays: None

**MINUTES - ENVIRONMENTAL CITIZENS COMMITTEE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES BUILDING
801 AJAX DRIVE
Wednesday, April 21, 2010**

I. Call to Order

Time: 5:45 p.m.

II. Roll Call & Introductions

Present:

Kyle Gerald
Leonard Kwapis
Gary Louchart
Jeffrey Phillips
Yvette Ploskonka
Dean Wakeland
Jack Widger
Tina Zuber

Excused:

Craig Hennigan *
Daniel Milz *

Absent:

Linda Corbett
Andrew Ekstrom
James Owens

* notified the City of a prior commitment

Also Present: Ben Myers

III. New Business

Ben Myers reviewed the solid waste collection and disposal bid tabulation, and the staff report and recommendation for award of the bid to the lowest responsible bidder, Rizzo Services, for Scenario 1 – Maintenance of Current Service Levels. Ben distributed to the committee members the updated reference check listing for Rizzo, noting that Chesterfield Township, Grosse Pointe Shores, Grosse Pointe Woods, and Mt. Clemens all responded after the meeting packets and staff report were distributed. Ben also distributed an e-mail received from Committee Member Craig Hennigan regarding his unavailability to attend tonight's meeting. The e-mail read as follows:

“Unfortunately I have class and cannot attend. I appreciate the work that has been done on this bid. I think it is beneficial to the city to be saving money. I would warn for future budgets like the council is currently deciding on to not set up a false dichotomy of either caring for the environment or allowing economic development. Leaving the Clinton River Watershed council in order to save a negligible amount of money in the budget yearly is a move that sets up this either-or type of idea. With all the work we have done on our water systems, conservation, and preserving the Red Run drain, leaving the Watershed Council seems antithetical to promoting environmental health. It is my hope that in future budgets and contracts Madison Heights can do better with increasing environmental services for the people that live here. Earth day is coming soon, so if there were a vote as to whether make a 'recommendation' on this bid, I would encourage not taking action. When this council was looking for an increase in services, in innovation in programs that would be available, we did not attain any of it for our citizens. The city council will likely accept the bid regardless, which is fine. But as a committee we are not required to

place a stamp of approval on it because it saves money. We are here to look beyond that as well and consider what we are getting that will better the environment of Madison Heights.

If it's allowed, consider this a 'no' vote on recommendation.

Please excuse my absence today, it's the end of the semester and I can't really blow off a class."

Ben reviewed that the reference checks all came back with "Above Average" to "Excellent" ratings and that all references would recommend Rizzo Services to another municipality. Further, he commented that Rizzo's pricing will save the City over \$304,000 in the first year for the same level of service, and that Rizzo is also the low bidder over the extended ten (10) year period with a total cost of \$11.455 million, as compared to the next lowest bidder for ten years, Waste Management, at a cost of \$15.372 million – a difference of \$3.92 million.

Committee Member Kwapis questioned if under Yard Waste Option V(B)(2) Rizzo would be picking up leaves at the curb similar to the DPS's current fall curbside leaf collection. Ben responded that no, this bid option was included only to see what the City's increased cost to Rizzo would be in the event that the City at some point decided to end curbside fall leaf collection for budget reasons, thereby resulting in more compost bags and containers at the curb for Rizzo to collect. Ben also commented that the City has no immediate plans to end fall curbside leaf pickup but must be able to plan for any contingency. A detailed cost analysis has not been performed, but would have to include the increased cost to Rizzo for the additional compost tonnage.

The Committee Members discussed the 6.8% spike in Year Six of the Rizzo Bid (Scenario 1), but also noted that (1) the firm held its bid to no increase in the first five years; (2) the average annual Rizzo increase in Years 6 through 10 is only 2.3%, and (3) the average percentage increase over the entire ten (10) year period is only 1.3%.

Committee Member Kwapis inquired whether the City should be concerned with Rizzo not operating its own landfill and the potential for not having a destination point at some point in the future. Ben responded that the bid and contract will compel Rizzo to always have access to licensed disposal facilities, and that the disposal facility information was required by the bid specifications and provided in the bid submittal.

Motion by Louchart, Supported by Ploskonka, to recommend that the City Council approve the bid for solid waste collection and disposal services to the lowest responsible bidder, Rizzo Services, for Scenario 1 – Maintenance of Current Service Levels, for a ten (10) year period.

Committee Member Zuber inquired as to whether future contract amendments would be allowed in the event the City desires additional services or changes to service to better promote the environment. Ben responded that major service changes would most likely require a renegotiation of the contract, but that the City and solid waste vendor could certainly look at improvements in areas like recycling education without having to change the contract.

Committee Member Gerald acknowledged Committee Member Hennigan's e-mail regarding the Committee looking at ways to protect the environment, but also stated that the Committee

has historically exercised an advisory role with respect to the solid waste contract and that he is very pleased that the City is able to save over \$300,000 in the solid waste millage levy at a time when every dollar of savings is critical to the City's financial health.

Ayes: Unanimous

Nays: None

IV. Meeting Open to the Public

No comments.

V. Committee Comments /Other Business

No comments.

VI. Adjournment

Motion by Louchart, Supported by Zuber, to adjourn at approximately 7:20 pm.

Ayes: Unanimous

Nays: None

Environmental Citizens Committee
Regular Meeting
Madison Heights, Michigan
March 26, 2018

A Regular Meeting of the Environmental Citizens Committee was called to order on March 26, 2018, at 8:01 a.m. in the Executive Conference Room in the Municipal Building at 300 West Thirteen Mile Road, Madison Heights, Michigan.

Present: Sarah Popp, Michael Salley, Heather Haines, Joshua Schroder, and Councilor Grafstein

Also Present: DPS Director Joe Vitali, Deputy City Manager Melissa Marsh, DPS Analyst/Planner Sean Ballantine, Clerk to the Board Romona Sanchez

Absent: Brannon Wickham, Alexander Bedz, Steven Check, Linda Corbett.

In the absence of a Chairman or Vice-Chairman, Deputy City Manager Marsh opened the meeting and called the roll.

18-01. Election of Chairperson.

Deputy City Manager Marsh called for nominations for the Chair of the Committee for 2018.

Motion by Mr. Schroder, seconded by Councilor Grafstein to nominate Mr. Salley for Chair of the Committee. There being no further nominations, the vote for Chair was called.

Yeas: Grafstein, Haines, Popp, Schroder, Salley
Nays: None
Absent: Bedz, Check, Corbett, Wickham

Mr. Michael Salley was elected as Chair of the Committee

18-02. Election of Vice-Chairperson.

Chairman Salley called for nominations for the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

Motion by Councilor Grafstein, supported by Mr. Schroder to nominate Ms. Popp for Vice-Chair of the Committee. There being no further nominations, the vote for Vice-Chair was called.

Yeas: Haines, Popp, Schroder, Grafstein, Salley
Nays: None
Absent: Bedz, Check, Corbett, Wickham

Ms. Sarah Popp was elected as Vice-Chair of the Committee

18-03 Minutes.

Motion by Councilor Grafstein, seconded by Mr. Schroder to adopt the minutes from the Regular Meeting of April 21, 2010, as printed.

Yeas: Popp, Schroder, Grafstein, Haines, Salley
Nays: None
Absent: Bedz, Check, Corbett, Wickham

18-04. MDEQ Recycling Education Grant.

Deputy City Manager Marsh provided an overview of the MDEQ Recycling Education Grant stating this is an education only grant. The amount is \$3,250 with a City match. The State of Michigan must approve information prior to being sent to residents. There is a small Logo that the DEQ has adopted which must be used if reimbursement is requested. The City has until August 31, 2018 to complete the project, than a final report must be submitted.

Deputy City Manager Marsh stated that GFL has a newsletter that they have presented to the City and it contains a lot of information. We can use that as a base and put more information with additional pictures that make it easy for people to understand. This way we can educate the public on what can be recycled and how to not contaminate recycling.

18-05. Status of Waste Hauling and Disposal Contract.

DPS Director Vitali stated that the current 10 year contract with GFL has 2 plus years remaining. Currently, residents are allowed an 18-gallon recycle totter and a 32-gallon trash receptacle.

DPS Director Vitali indicated that there is a unit cost for trash, recycle and compost per household. In order to offer larger recycling bins or to make any changes to our current contract, GFL would require a contract extension. Based on multiple grant applications and after hearing from our residents, some want larger trash bins, some want larger recycle bins, we have reached out to GFL. He continued stating that it would be in our best interest to continue to work with our current contractor. We are attempting to make it possible for our residents to be able to

purchase the 95-gallon trash toter and the 65-gallon recycling toter from GFL who would deliver those items directly to the resident. DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine stated currently residents can have multiple recycle bins and trash cans of the current size. For example, residents can put out more than one 18-gallon recycle toter more than one 32-gallon trash can.

18-06. MDEQ Recycling Infrastructure Grant.

Deputy City Manager Marsh stated that she has recently applied for an MDEQ Recycling Infrastructure Grant and that the grant fits in with the goals of the City, which is for 65-gallon recycling toters. She stated that the grant was submitted for 25% of the residents, which are 2,365 units. The grant requires 50% be funded by the City or other means and 50% by the State, therefore the grant was written so that the grant would pay \$35, the resident will pay \$35 and the balance would be paid by the City. This would be a first come, first serve opportunity and would be a great tie in with the educational grant. Deputy City Manager Marsh stated the grant must be completed by 2020 with all bins being delivered by September 2020.

Deputy City Manager Marsh closed by stating they wanted to share what the plans for this committee are and what the City's focus is in terms of recycling. There are a lot of things we would like to do in the City for environmental concerns. Therefore, narrowing our focus on recycling as the first priority, then we can add and adjust as time goes on.

18-07. Round Table.

Councilor Grafstein stated that she would also like to see food composting. Food is a large part of garbage and to remove it would benefit the earth. Also, she would like to replant the 1,400 trees that have been removed for various reasons. If we can get the High School kids involved, they will pass on the recycling habits to their parents.

Vice Chair Popp asked how to find grants. Deputy City Manager Marsh stated that there is no one specific person at the City who writes grants, however, most grants she finds simply by googling. She is also on an email list with MDEQ and others for things that pop up.

Deputy City Manager Marsh asked if this time slot worked for those on the board. She also stated that the 8 a.m. meeting time works best for staff; however, there is one board member who has indicated he would not be able to attend if the meetings were to be held at this time. Chairman Salley stated this time was fine with him. Mr. Schroder indicated that this time is usually fine for him too. Ms. Haines indicated

that 8 a.m. is good for her and Vice Chair Popp stated that this time is good for her also.

Deputy City Manager Marsh closed by saying that the board would need to meet more often in the beginning, most likely monthly for the next six months, and then would be able to go to quarterly meetings.

18-07. Adjournment.

There being no further business, Chairman Salley adjourned the meeting at 8:56 a.m.

Romona Sanchez
Clerk of the Board

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
May 14, 2018

A Regular Meeting of the Environmental Citizens Committee was called to order by Chairman Salley, Monday, May 14, 2018, at 8:32 a.m. in the Executive Conference Room in the Municipal Building at 300 West Thirteen Mile Road, Madison Heights, Michigan.

Present: Chairman Salley, Vice Chairperson Popp, Bedz and Councilor Grafstein

Also Present: DPS Director Joe Vitali, Deputy City Manager Melissa Marsh, DPS Analyst/Planner Sean Ballantine, Clerk to the Board Romona Sanchez

Absent: Check, Corbett, Wickham, Schroder and Haines.

18-08. Members Excused.

Motion by Councilor Grafstein, seconded by Ms. Popp to excuse Check, Corbett, Wickham, Schroder and Haines from today's meeting.

Yeas: Bedz, Grafstein, Popp, Salley
Nays: None.
Absent: Check, Corbett, Wickham, Schroder and Haines.

18-09. Minutes.

Motion by Councilor Grafstein, seconded by Ms. Popp to adopt the minutes from the Regular Meeting of March 26, 2018, as printed.

Yeas: Grafstein, Popp, Bedz, Salley
Nays: None.
Absent: Check, Corbett, Wickham, Schroder and Haines.

18-10. GFL Contract Extension and expansion of recycling and trash toters.

Ms. Marsh gave an overview of the options available for implementation strategies and various pricing options in order to move forward with expanding the recycling and trash pickup in the City. Of the five (5) options available, it is the staff recommendation that Option 5, which is, Residents could purchase 96-gallon trash toters for \$75 and 64-gallon recycling containers for \$65 directly from GFL. Residents will still be

able to put out smaller trash cans and 18-gallon recycling bins if they choose. This service would be semi-automated.

Motion by Councilor Grafstein, seconded by Ms. Popp to recommend approval of a five year extension with waste hauler GFL Environmental from FY 2019-2025, with pricing option 5 to move forward with expanding recycling and trash toters in the City.

Yeas: Popp, Bedz, Grafstein, Salley

Nays: None.

Absent: Check, Corbett, Wickham, Schroder and Haines.

18-11. City Newsletter Recycling Guidelines.

Mr. Vitali stated that the City Newsletter has a section for information on recycling and it is in the process of being updated and freshened up. He stated that he has emailed the group and welcomes comments and suggestions for improving the publication. The Newsletter will be going out three (3) times a year now and it may be possible to make the cover about recycling in the city for the next issue.

Councilor Grafstein asked if the results of the recycling competition between Madison Heights and Royal Oak were available yet. She also stated that if anyone has any ideas about fun and friendly competition to encourage recycling throughout the City, she would be interested in hearing about them.

18-12. Adjournment.

Motion by Councilor Grafstein, seconded by Ms. Popp to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 a.m.

Romona Sanchez
Clerk of the Board

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
June 13, 2018

A Regular Meeting of the Environmental Citizens Committee was called to order by Chairman Salley, Wednesday, June 13, 2018, at 5:30 p.m. in the Executive Conference Room in the Municipal Building at 300 West Thirteen Mile Road, Madison Heights, Michigan.

Present: Chairman Salley, Vice Chair Popp, Councilor Grafstein, Schroder and Wickham.

Also Present: DPS Director Joe Vitali, Deputy City Manager Melissa Marsh, DPS Analyst/Planner Sean Ballantine, Clerk to the Board Romona Sanchez

Absent: Bedz, Check, Corbett, Haines

18-13. Members Excused.

Motion by Councilor Grafstein, seconded by Vice Chairperson Popp to excuse Bedz, Check, Corbett and Haines from today's meeting.

Yeas: Grafstein, Popp, Schroder, Wickham, Salley
Nays: None
Absent: Bedz, Check Corbett, Haines

Motion Carried

18-14. Minutes.

Motion by Councilor Grafstein, seconded by Mr. Schroder to adopt the minutes from the Regular Meeting of May 14, 2018, as printed.

Yeas: Popp, Schroder, Wickham, Grafstein, Salley
Nays: None
Absent: Bedz, Check Corbett, Haines

Motion Carried

18-15. DEQ Representative – Recycling Education.

Elizabeth Garver, Recycling Specialist for Southeast Michigan District with the Department of Environmental Quality stated she would be happy to address any questions or comments about the recycling program.

The board held an open discussion about the recycling education flyer that will be distributed to Madison Heights residents in the near future. Deputy City Manager Marsh stated that the flyer will be a 4 page flyer with guidelines indicating what should be recycled as well as what materials need to be left out of the recycle bins.

Deputy City Manager Marsh continued indicating that GFL will also distribute a flyer to all the residents showing where to place the new bins with photos.

The board also discussed a variety of ideas on how to promote the recycling project. One idea was possibly asking students from both Lamphere and Madison Schools to participate in making videos to promote the program.

18-16. Adjournment.

Motion by Councilor Grafstein, seconded by Ms. Wickham adjourn the meeting at 5:59 p.m.

Yeas: Popp, Schroder, Wickham, Grafstein, Salley
Nays: None
Absent: Bedz, Check Corbett, Haines

Motion Carried

Romona Sanchez
Clerk of the Board

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
November 19, 2018

A Regular Meeting of the Environmental Citizens Committee was called to order by Chairman Salley, Monday, November 19, 2018, at 8:04 a.m. in the Executive Conference Room in the Municipal Building at 300 West Thirteen Mile Road, Madison Heights, Michigan.

Present: Chairman Salley, Vice Chair Popp, Councilor Grafstein, Bedz, Check, Schroder and Haines

Also Present: DPS Director Joe Vitali, DPS Analyst/Planner Sean Ballantine, Stormwater Consultant Laura Gruzowski (Johnson and Anderson)

Absent: Wickham and Corbett

18-14. New Business.

For the sake of time, DPS Director Vitali requested that Agenda Item 4-D be moved to the top of the agenda, to enable the presenter to leave the meeting after her presentation.

Yeas: Salley, Popp, Grafstein, Bedz, Check, Schroder, and Haines
Nays: None
Absent: Wickham and Corbett

Motion Carried

18-15. Laura Gruzowski - Clinton River Watershed Council (CRWC) WaterTowns Program Presentation.

Laura Gruzowski, Stormwater Consultant for the City of Madison Heights presented a short PowerPoint regarding the CRWC WaterTowns program, designed to encourage green infrastructure to reduce stormwater runoff. The presentation covered several concept designs for Madison Heights facilities, including the Civic Center campus parking lots, and greenspace in Civic Center Park.

The board held an open discussion regarding the budget numbers, comparable numbers for different technologies (permeable asphalt vs. permeable pavers, for example). Ms. Gruzowski answered the questions she was able to, and noted the others for follow-up with the CRWC.

18-16. Minutes.

Motion by Councilor Grafstein, seconded by Mr. Schroder to adopt the minutes from the Regular Meeting of June 13, 2018 as printed.

Yeas: Salley, Popp, Grafstein, Bedz, Check, Schroder, and Haines
Nays: None
Absent: Wickham and Corbett

Motion Carried

18-17. New Business.

Director Vitali introduced concept ideas for the short Recycling Fact/Tip videos, and asked the Board for additional ideas. Councilor Grafstein suggested that the videos be more person-oriented, as residents frequently ask how do/what can they recycle. A discussion ensued on this topic, with the consensus of the Board being that the videos should focus on “tips” not “facts”, especially what residents can/cannot recycle. Director Vitali requested that the Board submit their ideas, including who would be willing to appear in a video, via email.

Director Vitali presented a draft Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) sheet regarding the increased complaints about the level of service from Green for Life Environmental (GFL), the City’s solid waste contractor. Director Vitali explained the process of complaint resolution; how the DPS office receives a complaint, and immediately notifies the GFL Route Supervisor. The Board was invited to solicit feedback on the FAQ sheet. The Board then held an open discussion in which the following points were discussed: that the purpose of the FAQ sheet is to notify the residents that the City is aware of their concerns, several complaints have been received about GFL throwing cans in the street/on the sidewalk, that GFL has a contractual obligation to complete their workday at 5:00 pm, and it is their responsibility to address it.

A further question was asked regarding whether or not the contract specified a minimum staffing level for Madison Heights. Director Vitali responded that while it does not, and although every company experiences turnover, Madison Heights has been assured that we are being provided with the proper amount of trucks and personnel to serve our residents. Director Vitali indicated that he would incorporate the Board’s comments, run the second draft by GFL for their feedback, and resubmit to the Board via email in two weeks’ time.

Chairman Salley questioned whether GFL would be at an upcoming Council meeting to address these concerns. Director Vitali responded that he expects this to happen in early 2019.

18-18. Other Business.

Commenting on the WaterTowns presentation, Councilor Grafstein requested a presentation to the Board for raingarden implementation, and the ReLeaf program from a community outreach perspective; I.E., how residents could implement these ideas at their own homes or businesses.

18-19. Adjournment.

Motion by Councilor Grafstein, seconded by S. Check to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 a.m.

Yeas: Salley, Popp, Grafstein, Bedz, Check, Schroder, and Haines
Nays: None
Absent: Wickham and Corbett

Motion Carried

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
March 4, 2019

A Regular Meeting of the Environmental Citizens Committee was called to order by Chairman Salley, Monday, March 4, 2019, at 8:00 a.m. in the Executive Conference Room in the Municipal Building at 300 West Thirteen Mile Road, Madison Heights, Michigan.

Present: Chairman Salley, Vice Chair Popp, Check, Councilor Grafstein, and Haines

Also Present: DPS Director Joe Vitali, DPS Analyst/Planner Sean Ballantine, Clerk to the Committee Romona Sanchez

Absent: Bedz, L. Corbett, Wickham, Schroder

19-01. Minutes.

Motion by Mr. Check, seconded by Ms. Popp to adopt the minutes from the Regular Meeting of November 19, 2018, as printed.

Yeas: Check, Grafstein, Popp, Haines, Salley
Nays: None
Absent: Bedz, L. Corbett, Wickham, Schroder

19-02. Recycling fact/tip video.

Director Vitali stated that staff and Councilor Grafstein have put together the first, in a series of videos about recycling. With these videos our goal is to educate our residents about what can be recycled. Staff played the video about recycling tips for the committee. Director Vitali continued stating we would like to put out one video a month, which will be promoted on Facebook and other social media outlets as well as the City website.

Councilor Grafstein stated there may be other groups interested in helping with making the videos, such as the schools, the Active Adult Center and staff at other municipal buildings. She continued stating we are trying to determine where best to focus our efforts for the next video so that we can eliminate some of the confusion on what can be recycled and what cannot. Director Vitali stated that he has a list of topics for future videos and suggested that the committee build off that list.

19-03. Clinton River Watershed Council (CRWC) WaterTowns Program – City Council Presentation.

Director Vitali stated that the Clinton River Watershed Council WaterTowns Program will be doing a presentation at the city council meeting, March 11, 2019 and if possible it would be a good idea if the Environmental Citizens Committee members would attend that meeting, as this is a good program for this committee to get behind.

Director Vitali also stated that there is a grant from SEMCOG for green infrastructure projects which is due at the end of March. It's for up to \$50,000, and can be used for some bio swales, rain garden initiative, which we put in at our parks.

19-04. Presentation Ideas.

Director Vitali indicated that he has been looking into the possibility of having various groups such as ReLeaf, come and do a presentation on composting methods or eco-friendly gardens, for example. Staff will get in touch with these organizations and see if they can set up an evening presentation. If any committee member has suggestions for other group presentation, please forward the information to the member of the Environmental Citizens Committee (ECC) and as well as him and he will have staff vet the organization and get back to the committee about future presentations.

Councilor Grafstein stated that these presentations are free of charge and can take place at the library and all residents would be welcome to attend.

Ms. Haines stated that composting is something she is interested in and indicated that the City of Ann Arbor does curb side composting and she would like to look into something like that for the residents of Madison Heights.

The committee continued with a discussion on composting with companies picking up food waste, home composting, and compost for gardens which is available at the Department of Public Service for residents free of charge.

19-05. Women's Club – Tree Seedlings.

Councilor Grafstein stated that the Women's Club would like to purchase about \$50 worth of tree seedlings and she would like to know what this committees' thoughts are about doing such. Director Vitali indicated

that this is a worthwhile program, yet the City does have some restrictions on the type of trees that can be planted. Also, he stated the City is a member of the Arbor Day Foundation and we are looking for something to engage the community this idea with these seedlings.

A discussion ensued about a variety of ideas on how to make this idea work including purchasing trees larger than seedlings, location on where to plant the trees, a potential City nursery, involving the local school districts, etc. also, selling the seedlings at a future events and fund raiser. However, staffing this position is a little more of an issue.

19-06. Other Discussion.

Dale Gardner, member of the public stated he would like to have electronic charging stations at all the gas stations in Madison Heights. Maybe changing the ordinance to add charging stations when a new gas station is being constructed.

19-07. Committee Member Attendance.

Motion by Mr. Check, seconded by Ms. Popp, that the DPS Director work with the City Clerk's office to have Linda Corbett removed from the seat on the Environmental Citizens Committee, due to lack of attendance, and declare the seat vacant.

Yeas: Grafstein, Popp, Haines, Check, Salley
Nays: None.
Absent: Bedz, L. Corbett, Wickham, Schroder

There being no further business, Chairman Salley adjourned the meeting at 8:58 a.m.

Romona Sanchez
Clerk of the Committee

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
May 20, 2019

A Regular Meeting of the Environmental Citizens Committee was called to order by Chairman Salley, Monday, May 20, 2019, at 8:02 a.m. in the Executive Conference Room in the Municipal Building at 300 West Thirteen Mile Road, Madison Heights, Michigan.

Present: Chairman Salley, Vice Chair Popp, Check, Councilor Grafstein, Haines (arrive 8:05 a.m.) and Schroder

Also Present: City Manager Melissa Marsh, DPS Analyst/Planner Sean Ballantine, Deputy City Clerk Romona Sanchez, Councilman Bliss

Absent: Bedz and Corbett

19-08. Meeting Open to the Public.

There being no public comment, the meeting to the public was closed.

19-09. Minutes.

Motion by Councilor Grafstein, seconded by Mr. Schroder to adopt the minutes from the Regular Meeting of March 4, 2019, as printed.

Yeas: Check, Grafstein, Popp, Schrode, Salley
Nays: None.
Absent: Bedz, Corbett, Haines

19-10. Recycling fact/tip video.

DPS Analyst/Planner Sean Ballantine gave an update on the latest recycling video that was done at the Active Adult Center with Chairman Salley as the narrator of the video. Mr. Ballantine asked for a volunteer for the next video and Ms. Popp stated that she would be happy to do so.

Councilor Grafstein stated that she had an idea for video number four. As City Council has recently passed a resolution to decrease the use of single use plastic and the arts board has created a reusable water bottle that they are selling, it would be a good time to combined the two and produce a video.

19-11. Update on the SEMCOG grant submittal.

City Manager Marsh stated the SEMCOG grant has been submitted and we are awaiting the results which should come out in July 2019.

19-12. Presentation Ideas.

City Manager Marsh stated that there will be a workshop on Eco-Friendly Landscaping for Water Quality on Monday, June 3, 2019 from 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. at Madison Heights Fire Station #1. She also stated that it would be a good idea for board members to promote the event to their friends and neighbors and through their social media outlets.

There was a discussion about the many presentations offered by ReLeaf Michigan and which would be most beneficial to the residents of Madison Heights.

Motion by Councilor Grafstein, seconded by Mr. Schroder to contact ReLeaf Michigan to have the City host presentations on 1) Ten Things Homeowners Should Know About Their Trees; 2) Trees and Shrubs: Basic Care and Prep for Winter; and 3) Plant It Well, Enjoy it Forever: Best Practices for Planting and Maintaining Trees.

Yeas: Grafstein, Haines, Popp, Schroder, Check, Salley
Nays: None
Absent: Bedz and Corbett

19-13. Tree program.

DPS Analyst/Planner Sean Ballantine gave an update on the tree removal and replacement projects that tie in with the road and water main projects. He gave an explanation of the trees that would be available. He also provided an update on the upcoming planting of the memorial trees and plaques and stated that the City maintains both into perpetuity. Finally, he stated that the contract with Branch Tree is expiring and they have indicated that they cannot continue at the current contract price, therefore, we will be going out to bid for those services.

DPS Analyst/Planner Sean Ballantine also gave the board some basic information about the dos and don'ts of planting trees in the right of way.

There was a brief discussion about contacting Home Depot and Lowe's at the end of the season to see if they would donate the remaining trees to

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
May 20, 2019

the City. Then those could be planted in right of ways of residents who have had their trees removed during previous road and water main projects.

19-14. Call for Projects and ReLeaf Grant.

City Manager Marsh stated that City Council has put out a Call for Projects where there is up to \$9,000 of funds available to the quality of life boards that may be available for use with some of these projects. There is information in the packet and the ideas will be reviewed by City Council later in the year.

There is also an option to team up with another board to use the funds. Any funds that might be used with a matching grant may be looked on as favorable by City Council as it would increase the funding.

There was a discussion on the ReLeaf application including where to replace trees that were removed during past road projects; how it can tie in with the Earth Day 2020 and the Call for Projects program. There was several streets mentioned that would highly benefit from this opportunity. Moulin appears to be the most shocking, as all the trees were removed several years ago during the road construction project and most have not been replaced.

Motion by Mr. Check, seconded by Ms. Popp to complete and submit the ReLeaf application for \$1,500 to be used for trees to be planted on Moulin Street.

Yeas: Haines, Popp, Schroder, Check, Grafstein, Salley
Nays: None
Absent: Bedz and Corbett

Motion by Mr. Check, seconded by Ms. Popp to submit a Call for Projects to City Council in the amount of \$1,500 as matching funds for the ReLeaf grant

Yeas: Popp, Schroder, Check, Grafstein, Haines, Salley
Nays: None
Absent: Bedz and Corbett

Mayor Pro-tem Bliss recommended that a sub-committee be formed to work on the Releaf proposal and the public outreach. Mr. Check, Ms. Popp and Mr. Salley stated that they are willing to be on the sub-

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
May 20, 2019

committee to work on the application to ReLeaf and related public outreach.

19-15. Lamphere Garden Grant Volunteers.

Councilor Grafstein stated that a group of Lamphere High School students who are cognitively challenged and Lamphere Center are looking for volunteers to assist with a greenhouse garden. If you have any ideas or would like to help, please get in touch with her.

19-16. Clinton River Watershed Council Annual Reports 2018.

Information of the report and other volunteer information is included in the packet and is just for your information. No action needs to be taken.

19-17. Other Business.

DPS Analyst/Planner Sean Ballantine stated that they put a question out on Facebook asking residents what specific questions they had about recycling. Most of the questions were “why can’t we” recycle certain things and many are repeat questions. Next, is where can we “take our batteries”, “take our plastic bags”? Therefore, he confirmed that he would work with GFL to get the answers to the specific questions and suggested this board do a video about the information we learned.

There being no further business, Chairman Salley adjourned the meeting at 9:04 a.m.

Romona Sanchez
Clerk of the Board

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
September 9, 2019

A Regular Meeting of the Environmental Citizens Committee was called to order by Chairman Salley, Monday, September 9, 2019, at 8:06 a.m. in the Executive Conference Room in the Municipal Building at 300 West Thirteen Mile Road, Madison Heights, Michigan.

Present: Chairman Salley, Vice Chair Popp, Mr. Check, Councilor Grafstein, Ms. Haines, and Ms. Sandoval

Also Present: City Manager Marsh, DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine, City Clerk Printz

Absent: Mr. Schroder, Mr. Work

19-18. Meeting Open to the Public.

There being no public comment, the meeting to the public was closed.

19-19. Minutes.

Motion by Mr. Check, seconded by Ms. Popp, to adopt the minutes from the Regular Meeting of May 20, 2019, as printed.

Yeas: Check, Grafstein, Haines, Popp, Sandoval, Salley
Nays: None
Absent: Schroder, Work

19-20. Recycling fact/tip video.

DPS Analyst/Planner Sean Ballantine gave an update on the latest recycling video and would follow up on the posting of the video on the City's website. Ms. Popp stated that she is working with Cas Luetz and Sean Ballantine on the 3rd and 4th videos.

19-21. Update on the SEMCOG grant submittal.

City Manager Marsh stated the SEMCOG grant was awarded to the City and staff is in the process of meeting with the consultant and engineer for the design of the Civic Center Park Rain Garden Project. The paperwork has been completed and the City is gearing up for the project to commence in the spring. Mr. Check gave DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine a copy of AECOM's Summary of Rain Garden Maintenance and Costs from a similar project in Michigan.

19-22. Tree program.

City Manager Marsh stated that there are many things going on in the City pertaining to trees. Staff will be talking to Lowes and Home Depot about tree donations in October. In addition, one of the City's recipients of the medical marijuana licenses, GS Ashley, is interested in the environment and will be making a 108 tree donation to be planted in the DDA. City Manager Marsh indicated they will also be doing some planting on Stephenson and she was going to request additional trees on Stephenson as well. She presented the committee with an aerial photo of the proposed facility on Stephenson as well as a tree canopy map of the DDA. She stated that the company is also committed to doing a liberty garden. These donations will change the look of the tree canopy within the City.

19-23. Call for Projects and ReLeaf Grant.

City Manager Marsh stated that the City has received a matching grant from ReLeaf for \$1500. In addition, the Chinese-American Volunteers have agreed to a donation of up to \$1,500, as well as an in-kind donation of labor for the planting. ReLeaf has indicated that it takes two adult volunteers to plant each tree. The project is slated for April 25th on Moulin, should funding be secured from Council. She stated that she will also be approaching GS Ashley for a \$3,000 donation for this project and will let the group know more definitive details are finalized. Discussion followed on the process used to notify residents of the tree planting and resident's options to select the tree planted in front of their home. She stated she will keep the group apprised of the project timing, deadlines, and schedule as they become finalized.

19-24. Upcoming Projects.

Adopt-A-Berm

Councilor Grafstein stated the Adopt-A-Berm project would be something similar to what Oak Park is doing. It would include identifying the areas in the City such as boulevards and right-of-ways that the City currently mows and they could be transformed to garden spaces with pollinator friendly plants, and finding volunteers to make the improvements and take care of these spaces on an ongoing basis. Discussion followed on the name of the project and perhaps clarifying it. Ms. Haines and Ms. Sandoval volunteered to assist Councilor Grafstein with moving the project forward.

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
September 9, 2019

Halloween Costume Swap

Councilor Grafstein stated that she is approaching the school's PTAs to help gather Halloween Costumes that can be swapped. The idea is to re-use, recycle and reduce. She suggested that on October 12th and 13th the Library could host the event. Ms. Haines volunteered to assist Ms. Grafstein with this project.

Plant Exchange

Councilor Grafstein asked that the Committee begin thinking of ways to expand the event so that more people would bring things to exchange. The exchange has a spring timeline.

City-wide Garage Sale

Councilor Grafstein stated there was a good response to the City-wide Garage Sale and suggested a mid-June timeline for the event next year.

19-25. Adjournment.

There being no further business, Chairman Salley adjourned the meeting at 8:54 a.m.

Cheryl E. Printz
Clerk of the Board

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
January 6, 2020

A Regular Meeting of the Environmental Citizens Committee was called to order by Chairman Salley, Monday, January 6, at 8:00 a.m. in the Executive Conference Room in the Municipal Building at 300 West Thirteen Mile Road, Madison Heights, Michigan.

Present: Chairman Salley, Mayor Pro Tem Grafstein, Ms. Haines, Vice Chair Popp (arrived @ 8:05 a.m.), Mr. Schroder, and Ms. Sandoval

Also Present: City Manager Marsh, DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine, Deputy City Clerk Boucher, and Councilor Rohrbach (arrived @ 8:10 a.m.)

Absent: Mr. Check, Mr. Work, and Ms. Yousif

20-01. Meeting Open to the Public.

There being no public comment, the meeting to the public was closed.

20-02. Minutes.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Grafstein, seconded by Mr. Schroder, to adopt the minutes from the Regular Meeting of September 9, 2019, as printed.

Yeas: Grafstein, Haines, Salley, Schroder, Sandoval,

Nays: None

Absent: Check, Popp, Work, Yousif

20-03. Tree Program.

City Manager Marsh stated the City has asked GS Ashley for 45 trees as part of an outreach agreement and they are working with their compliance officer to return a draft agreement. She is talking with GS Ashley to do tree planting on Stephenson and other tree planting projects throughout the city.

City Manager Marsh sent the call for projects to City Council for review and they will be voting on it at their January 13th meeting. DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine and ReLeaf will do a site visit to make tree recommendations in the area. They will consider overhead obstructions and the size of the boulevard. ReLeaf has concerns about offering a variety of trees to the residents. DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine suggests giving the residents a choice of up to five varieties of trees. City

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
January 6, 2020

Manager Marsh mentioned that the C4H volunteer group would like to participate in the tree planting and offered a match up to \$1,500. C4H is having a fundraiser, and she provided a copy of the flyer to be shared and posted in the community. This is a first event for the Multicultural Relations Advisory Board since they have been reinstated. ReLeaf will provide an education program for the Tree Planting and City Manager Marsh hopes to do community outreach; there is still a need for volunteers. Mayor Pro Tem Grafstein shared that the Men's Club will volunteer, and noted trees will be planted on the scheduled date rain or shine. City Manager Marsh suggests the committee consider applying for the Michigan Arbor Day Alliance Tree Planting Grant and will provide more information in February.

20-04. Upcoming Projects.

Mayor Pro Tem Grafstein informed everyone of a brainstorming session on Sunday, January 26th from 1:30 – 3 p.m. at the Library to further discuss Adopt-A-Median. There will be no cost to the city; it will be all volunteer hours and donations.

City Manager Marsh shared that Home Depot donated boxes of seed packets and asked for ideas from the committee. Ms. Haines stated she would like to start a seed library upon approval by the Library Board and Mayor Pro Tem Grafstein suggest to use some seed packets for the Adopt-A-Median project. She appointed Ms. Sandoval to organize the seed packets and choose two to three varieties for the seed booms. Also, she appointed Ms. Haines and Ms. Popp to coordinate the seed booms project. Residents can subscribe to Madison Heights on YouTube to view videos.

DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine mentioned that the recycling videos are on hold for the fall and winter season. The videos will air once a month; there is a comprehensive list of recycle information but there are many questions pertaining to plastic bags and cartons. These videos will be pushed out through the cable channel, Facebook and YouTube. The videos are available at www.madison-heights.org/recycling, on channel 10 for WOW and channel 15 for Comcast. Residents can live stream the cable channel from the city website in community and Madison Heights television.

Mayor Pro Tem Grafstein added that she is working with Mr. Ballantine on a presentation at Edmonson School and there will be a GFL representative available for questions.

20-05. Open Discussion.

Mayor Pro Tem Grafstein reviewed the following upcoming events: presentation with Mr. Ballantine at Edmonson School, Councilor Rohrbach is spearheading the C4H Fundraising event, the Tree Planting program in April, and another plant exchange date is to be determined. She suggests having the Clinton River Watershed provide the community with a storm water education presentation with the rain gardens at Civic Center Park in the spring.

City Manager Marsh shared that Clinton River Watershed provides free public information to communities on storm water education. City Manager Marsh gave a brief update that the EPA and EGLE are in charge of the site at 945 E. 10 Mile Road. The City sent a press release out on Friday to inform the residents that the City is communicating daily with the federal and state agencies and have formal a meeting once a week. They assured the city that the contamination is not in the drinking water and our water supply comes from the Detroit River. It is in sewer and storm drains. The freeway worked as a barrier between the residents and the contamination; there is an underlying amount of clay that does not absorb this metal. EGLE does inspect about 7,000 sites on an annual basis and only have four inspectors. City Officials have been fighting to get the site cleaned up and for the past 2 years and to get the building demolished. It is illegal for the City to tear down a building on private property. The property owner reported to the jail on Friday, he owes the EPA about \$1.5 million and the City over \$250,000. Code Enforcement cannot force their way into his building. The City does not have Environmental Engineers on staff. These situations get deferred to the EPA and EGLE. The Fire Department does have hazmat and they do inspections on an annual basis. Our Fire Department notified DEQ and EGLE in 2016. EGLE and the EPA did an emergency clean up in 2017. They identified all the chemicals in the barrels, hauled the chemicals away and got it disposed of. The pit in the basement was pumped out and filled with sand since the operations were shut down in 2016. The ground water filled up into the storm drain and froze on I-696. The EPA and EGLE are coming up with a comprehensive plan. Over 75% of Michigan water has this particular chemical in it. A hearing at the State is scheduled at a later date. There was a change in the polluter law a few years ago that a business filing bankruptcy is not required to pay any money owed to the government agencies. The EPA and EGLE have cleaned up the storm drain on I-696, their employees are doing retesting and the lane closure is to protect these employees. The Town Hall Meeting will be scheduled for the first week in February.

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
January 6, 2020

Mayor Pro Tem Grafstein mentioned that soil boring samples were done last week and it takes 10-14 days to get results. The results will determine if the radius of the testing sites will need to be expanded. A Town Hall Meeting for the city is scheduled for next month and more information to follow. The goal of the EPA and EGLE is to clean up I-696.

20-06. Excuse members.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Grafstein, seconded by Ms. Haines, to excuse Mr. Steven Check from today's meeting.

Yeas: Grafstein, Haines, Popp, Salley, Schroder, Sandoval,
Nays: None
Absent: Check, Work, Yousif

20-07. Adjournment.

There being no further business, Chairman Salley adjourned the meeting at 8:40 a.m.

Phommady A. Boucher
Clerk of the Board

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
April 6, 2020

A Regular Meeting of the Environmental Citizens Committee was held on Monday, April 6, at 8:00 a.m. electronically via ZOOM video conferencing at 300 West Thirteen Mile Road, Madison Heights, Michigan.

Present: Chairman Salley, Mayor Pro Tem Grafstein, Ms. Haines, Mr. Work and Ms. Sandoval.

Also Present: City Manager Marsh, DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine, City Clerk Rottmann, and Councilor Rohrbach.

Absent: Mr. Check, Mr. Schroder and Ms. Yousif.

Due to an audio issue, Mayor Pro Tem Grafstein agreed to chair the meeting for Chairperson Salley.

20-8. Excuse Member.

Motion by Salley, seconded by Sandoval, to excuse Mr. Check from today's meeting as he called in his absence.

Yeas: Grafstein, Haines, Work, Sandoval, Salley
Nays: None
Absent: Check, Schroder, Yousif
Motion Carried.

20-9. Meeting Open to the Public.

There being no public comment, the meeting to the public was closed.

20-10. Minutes.

Motion by Salley, seconded by Haines, to adopt the minutes from the Regular Meeting of January 6, 2020, as printed.

Yeas: Grafstein, Haines, Work, Sandoval, Salley
Nays: None
Absent: Check, Schroder, Yousif
Motion Carried.

20-11. Tree Program.

Mayor Pro Tem Grafstein stated that the tree planting is still tentatively scheduled for May 16, 2020 with ReLeaf. The city has obtained a

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
April 6, 2020

commitment from GS Ashley for funding of \$3500. In addition, the city was working grants from Michigan Arbor Day Alliance, DTE and OakSTEM, but the grants are temporarily on hold due to the current public health crisis.

20-12. Upcoming Projects.

Ms. Sandoval informed the committee that the Bloom Project is looking at two spaces and working with DPS and two residents to maintain the flowers. The locations identified are Ambassador and Exchange parks. She added that they are hoping to expand the project after the first year.

Mayor Pro Tem Grafstein stated the Victory Gardens project was initially looking to have vegetable gardens throughout the city; however, a private property is now being looked at instead. The property is on 13 Mile across from Meijer, and can accommodate 20 beds. In an effort to save on cost and need for donations, instead of 20 individual beds, larger areas will be tilled as it will be more economical. They are in need of donations of tillers, soil, compost and volunteers.

Ms. Sandoval stated response to the Seed library has been positive. They have advertised on various Facebook forums, including the Madison Heights forum. There are plenty of seeds left, so she asked that program information continue to be advertised. Anyone interested in obtaining seeds can email madisonheightsseedlibrary@gmail.com and she will fill the orders in two days. She has had 35 orders to date.

DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine stated that the recycling videos are on hold for now; however the storyboards are done and volunteers are lined up so that once normal operations resume, the videos can be completed.

City Manager Marsh noted that there is a need for volunteers for the tree planting. She stated that 2 people are required per tree, but teams of 2 can plant more than one tree. She is hoping for 20 volunteers. The planting on May 16th is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. and continue until 1 p.m. Mr. Ballantine added that the Releaf letter went out to residents last week, so the DPS should have feedback on the number and type of trees sometime later this week. Mayor Pro Tem Grafstein stated that she will set up a Sign-Up Genius for volunteers once the number of trees to be planted is known and if the event does not have to be cancelled due to the health crisis. She also stated it may be possible to still plant with social distancing if the team members are from the same household.

20-13. Open Discussion.

Mayor Pro Tem Grafstein stated that she would like to have the Green for Life (GFL) contract reviewed and possibly renegotiated to provide large composting totes for residents. One possibility is to have pickup every other week instead of every week, stating this would be good for the environment and economically beneficially. Ms. Sandoval suggested holding bi-weekly composting classes and stated that this type of change would require a large educational component. Councilor Rohrbach stated that while she likes the idea of increasing composting, this will be a difficult buy-in for residents.

Ms. Haines stated that after the City passed an ordinance about unsolicited written materials, she asked for volunteers to help pick up unwanted papers and has not received any offers to help. Despite having no help, she went around and picked up papers herself. She stated she likes the composting concept, but questioned residents willingness to participate.

Mr. Work suggested that the committee establish a Recycling Club. In response to his question, Mayor Pro Tem Grafstein stated that the only other community in Michigan that she was aware of with a similar composting and pickup contract was the City of Lansing.

Ms. Sandoval added that Interval, Vermont has its own composting facility and in Burlington, Vermont residents could check out gardening tools from their library. She suggested that this may be a service provided in the future by our library.

Mr. Ballantine stated the City is looking at providing a hazardous waste drop off station at the DPS facility. They are currently studying whether there would be any liability issues or regulations they need to be cognizant of. Mayor Pro Tem Grafstein suggested that curbside pickup of hazardous waste may be an alternative. Mr. Work volunteered to help with the hazardous waste station concept.

20-14. Adjournment.

There being no further business, Mayor Pro Tem Grafstein adjourned the meeting at 8:52 a.m.

Cheryl E. Rottmann, City Clerk

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
July 13, 2020

A Regular Meeting of the Environmental Citizens Committee was held on Monday, July 13, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. electronically via ZOOM video conferencing at 300 West Thirteen Mile Road, Madison Heights, Michigan.

Present: Chairman Salley, Mayor Pro Tem Grafstein, Mr. Schroder, Mr. Work and Ms. Sandoval.

Also Present: City Manager Marsh, DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine, and Deputy City Clerk Boucher.

Absent: Mr. Check and Ms. Haines.

20-15. Meeting Open to the Public.

There being no public comment, the meeting to the public was closed.

20-16. Minutes.

Motion by Grafstein, seconded by Schroder, to adopt the minutes from the Regular Meeting of April 6, 2020, as printed.

Yeas: Grafstein, Schroder, Work, Sandoval, Salley
Nays: None
Absent: Check, Haines
Motion Carried.

20-17. Tree Program.

DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine stated that the Releaf Project has been put on hold and Oakland County has put OakSTEM on hold as well due to the current public health crisis. ReLeaf Project was a great success, 35 trees were planted on Moulin Avenue through a combined effort of DPS staff and volunteer planting. We look forward to pursuing such projects again in the future. He shared that the City has been awarded the Michigan Arbor Day Alliance Tree Planting Grant and there will be eight trees planted in the Fall.

Mayor Pro Tem Grafstein stated that the amendment to the Tree Ordinance is being considered tonight at the City Council Meeting.

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
July 13, 2020

City Manager Marsh stated that there will be a planting of 20 DDA trees in the Fall, and there are at least 102 trees needed in total. The \$3,500 donation from GS Ashley will be reserved for next year's Arbor Day.

20-18. Upcoming Projects.

Mayor Pro Tem Grafstein shared that C&G will be doing an article on the Bloom Project.

Ms. Sandoval informed the committee that Rosie's Park has been identified as a location to plant Michigan pollination flowers. There has been a mix of sixty residents and nonresidents that have picked up seeds from the Seed Library. Plots are available at the Victory Garden with plans to plant blueberries, blackberries and an apple tree.

DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine stated that the recycling videos are still on hold due to Covid-19.

City Manager Marsh spoke about a compost contractor Midtown Composting with offices in Ann Arbor and Detroit. Residents are encouraged to visit their website at MidtownComposting.com to sign up for services and order buckets. They offer immediate compost services to 500 residents and up to 2,000 residents per month with advance notice. The charge is \$16 a month per customer with an initial \$5 compost bucket; all fees are paid directly to the contractor. A quarterly charge is available at \$54 a month per customer with two compost buckets. The company drops off the bucket within a week of their regular pickup day, and services start up the following week. No other discounts are available because the company is considering other initiatives like compostable diaper service and dog poop composting. Midtown Composting takes most of the food waste to Tut Hill Farms to be composted.

Ms. Fox volunteered to assist Ms. Sandoval with the Residential Composting project.

20-19. Open Discussion.

Mayor Pro Tem Grafstein spoke about the Wyland National Mayor's Challenge for Water Conversation. Originally the challenge was scheduled for the month of April and has been changed to the month of August.

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
July 13, 2020

City Manager Marsh added that Toyota has partnered with the foundation and is giving away prizes. In order to participate, we need a volunteer to represent the City and a student volunteer to represent the School District.

Mr. Lee volunteered to help with the Wyland National Mayor's Challenge for Water Conversation.

DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine explained the contract between the City and SOCRRA. Unlike other municipalities, the City is not charged based on the weight or tons surcharge. It is a five year contact with an expiration date of fiscal year 2024. The Department of Public Services (DPS) offers the small recycling bins for \$14.50. The large recycling carts are purchased and delivered by Green for Life (GFL) for \$65. Mr. Ballantine shared that he has a garden, compost and recycles.

Ms. Sandoval shared that she has a butterfly garden.

Chairman Salley shared that he recycles every two weeks. He reminded everyone that's interested in joining the committee to apply online on the city's website.

Mr. Work shared that he had purchased a compost tumbler and recycling cart for his home. He is considering a purchase of a rain barrel.

20-20. Adjournment.

There being no further business, Chairman Salley adjourned the meeting at 8:46 a.m.

Phommady A. Boucher
Deputy City Clerk

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
September 10, 2020

A Regular Meeting of the Environmental Citizens Committee was held on Thursday, September 10, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. electronically via ZOOM video conferencing at 300 West Thirteen Mile Road, Madison Heights, Michigan.

Present: Chairman Salley, Councilor Rohrbach, Ms. Haines, Ms. Sandoval, Mr. Lee (left early) and Ms. Fox

Also Present: Councilwoman Clark, City Manager Marsh, DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine, and Deputy City Clerk Boucher

Absent: Mr. Check, Mr. Nagengast and Mr. Work

20-21. Meeting Open to the Public.

There being no public comment, the meeting to the public was closed.

20-22. Minutes.

Motion by Rohrbach, seconded by Lee, to adopt the minutes from the Regular Meeting of July 13, 2020, as printed.

Yeas: Haines, Rohrbach, Salley, Sandoval, Lee and Fox

Nays: None

Absent: Check, Nagengast and Work

Motion Carried.

20-23. Tree Program.

DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine informed the membership that the city is pursuing a DNR Grant application is due by September 30th and will provide up to \$20,000 towards general reforestation in the city if awarded.

DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine also commented that there will be two years worth of water main and road construction project tree plantings starting between October 15th and Christmas. In response to City Manager Marsh's question, including the annual Spring and Fall Memorial tree planting, approximately 60-70 trees are scheduled to be planted this fall.

20-24. Upcoming Projects.

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
September 10, 2020

Ms. Sandoval stated that the Bloom Project will begin in spring or early summer. The focus is to plant Michigan pollination flowers at Rosie's Park. Ms. Sandoval plans to move the indoor seed library to the Library in February. She suggested featuring Councilor Rohrbach and Councilwoman Clark with their families in the recycling videos to encourage others to recycle. Ms. Sandoval inquired about the timeline for the DTE Street Lighting conversion. She welcomed new committee members Crystal Fox, Kymm Clark and Emily Rohrbach.

Dan Lee spoke about drought tolerance and the use of rain water for the planting this past summer. He offered to provide seeds from his garden to donate to the seed library. Mr. Lee inquired about East Michigan Native Plant Nursery's reputation.

City Manager Marsh advised that the Library is scheduled to open on September 21st for a Grab and Go only. She confirmed there are no monetary benefits with our waste management company if there is an increase in recycled items. City Manager Marsh shared information on the KABOOM! Play Anywhere Grant to fund a nontraditional play and art garden in front of the Library. The status of the grant application will not be known until November. She informed that the Arts Board is hosting a Trail Tunes 2020 event at Civic Center Park on October 3rd and advised the committee to make a motion stating a "Project of the Environmental Citizens Committee to partner with East Michigan Native Plant Nursery on October 3rd" if they intend to participate. DPS will have no involvement in the events but they will ensure the restrooms at the Civic Center Park are open. City Manager Marsh shared a few PowerPoint presentation slides pertaining to the DTE Street Lighting Town Hall Meeting. The City of Warren saw a difference when they implemented a 5 year street lighting plan where they targeted their high crime areas, neighborhoods and commercial businesses. City Council can review and approve recommendations from the ECC for the DTE Street Lighting program at their September 14th meeting.

DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine informed that the recycling videos are on hold due to the pandemic. He suggested creating weekly recycling tips for the residents. He advised that the City pays a flat rate for collection of trash, compost and recycling regardless of volume. In response to Councilor Rohrbach's question about the mingling of trash and recycling, he clarified that the single stream recycling rear loader does look similar to the garbage trucks and that Green for Life (GFL) is contacted immediately with any complaints from residents received by the DPS. Guidelines are in place for all types of collections, the 64 gallon wheeled recycling carts are available through GFL and the 18 gallon recycling

bins are available through DPS. The City can advise the residents to move their recycling cart or bin a couple feet away from their garbage cans to avoid pick up errors. Compost and recycling stickers are available to the residents free of charge at the City Offices to designate their cans. In response to the question from Ms. Haines about the impact of the Chinese National Sword policy on recycled material markets, he clarified that GFL in Warren and Resource Recovery and Recycling Authority of Southwest Oakland County (RRRASOC) in Southfield work with local and Midwest companies to sell the recycling; they have not historically utilized China as an end-market, so although prices for recycled materials have plummeted, they are not being turned away. DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine added that the proposed DTE Street Lighting program replaces the high pressure sodium lights with LED lights. It will take 2-4 months for the delivery of supplies and 4-6 months to complete the project in total, providing significant savings.

Councilwoman Clark suggested planning a campaign for the recycling videos and utilizing any resources being distributed in the city to promote recycling. The videos should be 15-35 seconds in length featuring residents and neighbors. The videos can be generic and shared with other communities. A subcommittee can be created to identify the needs in the community. Councilwoman Clark suggested that proceeds be dedicated to one specific project.

Chairman Salley suggests adding information to the quarterly newsletters sent to residents. He suggests advising City Council of the ECC recommendations for the DTE Street Lighting program.

Councilor Rohrbach expressed her concerns with GFL garbage trucks picking up recyclables. She spoke about inviting a Financial Literacy group to the October 3rd event.

Ms. Haines expressed her concerns that China no longer buys recycles according to a podcast.

Ms. Fox shared a PowerPoint presentation of a project to partner with East Michigan Native Plant Nursery. The project must be completed no later than October 15th. Ms. Fox requested volunteers and to create a social media campaign for the upcoming October 3rd event.

20-25. Sub-committee for Recycling Videos.

Motion by Rohrbach, seconded by Salley, to appoint Kymm Clark and Crystal Fox as members of the Sub-committee for Recycling Videos.

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
September 10, 2020

Yeas: Rohrbach, Salley, Sandoval, Lee, Fox and Haines
Nays: None
Absent: Check, Nagengast and Work
Motion Carried.

20-26. Project of the Environmental Citizens Committee to Partner with East Michigan Native Plant Nursery on October 3rd at the Arts Board Event.

Motion by Sandoval, seconded by Rohrbach, to approve a project of the Environmental Citizens Committee to partner with East Michigan Native Plant Nursery on October 3rd at the Arts Board event.

Yeas: Salley, Sandoval, Lee, Fox, Haines and Rohrbach
Nays: None
Absent: Check, Nagengast and Work
Motion Carried.

20-27. Recommendation from the Environmental Citizens Committee to City Council for Street Lighting program.

Motion by Lee, seconded by Haines, to recommend participation in the DTE Street Lighting Program and send the Committee's recommendation to City Council for consideration.

Yeas: Sandoval, Lee, Fox, Haines, Rohrbach and Salley
Nays: None
Absent: Check, Nagengast and Work
Motion Carried.

20-28. Open Discussion.

City Manager Marsh asked each member their preference for the ECC meeting frequency and start time. With the sub-committees in place this may help keep the meetings structured. It was the consensus that the new meeting schedule will be the second Thursdays of each month at 9 a.m.

Chairman Salley noted that the meeting schedule can be changed if necessary. He suggests the committee members nominate and appoint a new Vice Chair.

20-29. Appoint Jenevieve Sandoval as the new Vice Chair.

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
September 10, 2020

Motion by Rohrbach, seconded by Fox, to appoint Jenevieve Sandoval as the new Vice Chair.

Yeas: Lee, Fox, Haines, Rohrbach, Salley and Sandoval
Nays: None
Absent: Check, Nagengast, Work, and Lee
Motion Carried.

20-30. Other Business.

Ms. Haines asked the committee to start a denim drive by collecting recycled blue jeans to make into insulation. She inquired about possible drop off locations.

Councilor Rohrbach suggests partnering with the schools to host a box to collect the denim. She recommends holding off on the idea because of the pandemic.

Councilwoman Clark suggests partnering with the churches and asked Ms. Haines to provide more information about the denim drive at the next meeting.

20-31. Adjournment.

There being no further business, Chairman Salley adjourned the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Phommady A. Boucher
Deputy City Clerk

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
October 8, 2020

A Regular Meeting of the Environmental Citizens Committee was held on Thursday, October 8, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. electronically via ZOOM video conferencing at 300 West Thirteen Mile Road, Madison Heights, Michigan.

Present: Chairman Salley, Councilor Rohrbach, Ms. Haines, Ms. Sandoval, Mr. Work, Mr. Lee and Ms. Fox.

Also Present: Councilwoman Clark (arrived 9:05 AM), City Manager Marsh, DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine.

Absent: Mr. Check, Mr. Nagengast.

20-32. Meeting Open to the Public.

There being no public comment, the meeting to the public was closed.

20-33. Minutes.

Mr. Lee proposed a correction to the minutes; he was not present for Item 20-29, as he had to leave the meeting early. Motion by Lee, seconded by Rohrbach, to adopt the minutes from the Regular Meeting of September 10, 2020, as amended.

Yeas: Haines, Rohrbach, Salley, Sandoval, Work, Lee and Fox

Nays: None

Absent: Check, Nagengast and Work

Motion Carried.

20-34. Tree Program.

DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine provided the update that the DNR grant was applied for, with the intent of adding additional trees in the neighborhood being focused on with the MSHDA grant.

DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine also commented that the list for the fall plantings would be going to the nursery shortly, still on track for planting mid-November.

City Manager Marsh commented that she has submitted the application to become a Tree City USA, and expects approval. In the next two months, we need to plan our Arbor Day celebration for the end of April.

20-35. Upcoming Projects.

Bloom Project: Ms. Fox reported: Despite the plant sale being put together last-minute, 500 plants were sold, which the nursery said was great, especially during COVID. After payment of invoice and fees, a total of 1361.34 made for the project. Complimented by organization that ours was the most organized sale this year. The Bloom Project was the group which made the most money during the entirety of Trail Tunes. Already planning spring event, brainstorming for end-of-may. Sandoval asked Lee about his native seeds; best time to plant is in the fall; spring is not the best time. 30-40 people expressed interest in the native seeds at the plant sale, good turnout. Discussion ensued about overwintering the seeds for others interested in collecting them.

Seed Library: Joined plant sale, and spoke to Roslyn Yerman, discussion pending regarding permanent placement in the Library. Planning on November based on library schedule. October 17 has a Friends of Library book sale, Sandoval offered to set up the seed library in conjunction with this event. Lee asked where seeds come from for the library, Sandoval gave an update on the original Home Depot donation. The goal is to eventually gain organic seeds collected from community and native plants, and she expects the seeds to start moving faster once it is in place in the library. Lee will try to get more native seeds prepared before the book sale.

Recycling communication update: subcommittee is in the planning phase, no update yet. Fox and Clark are currently on committee. Discussion ensued about the existing videos and future plans, with the consensus that there should be a push before the spring clean-up day event. Sandoval expressed support for a recycling push up to the spring clean-up day event.

Victory Gardens: No update available. Clark asked if there was any harvest from Eric Graettenger's garden, Sandoval will check into this, but believes there was a deer problem, limiting the harvest. Lee pointed out that there could be tutorial videos about deer; what residents can do to protect their crops given the number of deer in the city.

LED light update: Ballantine reported that Council approved the DTE lighting upgrade project, and that DTE provided an update indicating that construction would be taking place in January/February.

20-36. Open Discussion.

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
October 8, 2020

Councilor Rohrbach reported: Denim recycling has started, and asks that we spread the word! Ms. Haines reported: the goal is 30 pairs of jeans, and while she anticipates more, she expects that many of the donated jeans will not meet the 90% cotton requirement. The end date for collection is November 20, which coincides nicely with National Recycling Day, which is November 15.

Mr. Lee asked what the status is on native plantings in park through the Bloom Project? Ms. Sandoval commented that she is working on the proposals, but the proposed signage updates by DPS have the project on temporary hold. Ballantine provided an update on the status of the sign project.

Councilor Rohrbach proposed a celebration for monarch butterflies in the future, as the committee is working to increase pollinator plants in the community.

Rohrbach left at 9:46.

Mr. Lee: asked for a water conservation update. City Manager Marsh mentioned that the Mayor's challenge went live, but there is no update at this time. Lee asked if the board would be interested in rain barrel projects. City Manager Marsh gave an update on possible stormwater charge changes, the city is working with Oakland County on redoing the rates to give credit for stormwater mitigation efforts, such as rain gardens and rain barrels. She proposes tying this idea into that, creating a financial incentive for people to mitigate stormwater runoff.

20-37. Other Business.

None.

20-38. Adjournment.

There being no further business, Chairman Salley adjourned the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

Sean P. Ballantine
Public Services Analyst/Planner

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
November 12, 2020

A Regular Meeting of the Environmental Citizens Committee was held on Thursday, November 12, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. electronically via ZOOM video conferencing at 300 West Thirteen Mile Road, Madison Heights, Michigan.

Present: Chairman Salley, Councilor Rohrbach (arrived 9:38 a.m.), Councilwoman Clark (left 9:56 a.m.), Ms. Haines (arrived 9:56 a.m.), Ms. Sandoval, Mr. Lee and Ms. Fox

Also Present: City Manager Marsh, DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine, and Deputy City Clerk Boucher

Absent: Mr. Check, Mr. Nagengast and Mr. Work

20-39. Meeting Open to the Public.

There being no public comment, the meeting to the public was closed.

20-40. Minutes.

Motion by Lee, seconded by Clark, to adopt the minutes from the Regular Meeting of October 8, 2020, as printed.

Yeas: Clark, Salley, Sandoval, Lee and Fox

Nays: None

Absent: Check, Haines, Nagengast, Rohrbach and Work

Motion Carried.

20-41. Tree Program.

DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine provided the update on the status of the DNR Tree Grant and additional trees being planted in the neighborhood. He commented that the Fall planting is still on track for mid-November.

City Manager Marsh hopes to have an update on Tree City USA by the end of the calendar year.

20-42. Motion.

Motion by Sandoval, seconded by Clark, to add the discussion about volunteers from Michigan State University (MSU) to participate in the Bloom Project.

Yeas: Salley, Sandoval, Lee, Fox and Clark

Nays: None

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
November 12, 2020

Absent: Check, Haines, Nagengast, Rohrbach and Work
Motion Carried.

20-43. Current Projects.

Ms. Sandoval spoke briefly about the collaboration of the MSU volunteers and the Bloom Project. She expressed her concerns with maintaining the garden for the Native Planting Project. Ms. Sandoval had no further updates on the Seed Library and Victory Gardens.

City Manager Marsh gave a brief explanation of the lawn care service contract with the City of Madison Heights. She shared an idea from a garden that displayed the plants name and description for educational purposes.

Mr. Lee offered to provide more native seeds as needed.

Councilwoman Clark had no updates on the recycling campaign.

DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine reconfirmed that the construction for the DTE Street Lighting will be taking place in January and February.

20-44. Upcoming Projects.

City Manager Marsh gave an update on the Arbor Day Celebration scheduled for end of April. She suggests creating a subcommittee to review the streets of Rowland, Dallas, Guthrie and Barrett for planting trees.

20-45. Open Discussion.

Ms. Haines reported that the denim recycling was a success, there were 36 denim items donated to include jeans and shirts.

City Manager Marsh hopes to have an update on the KABOOM! Play Anywhere Grant by the first part of December. It is a grant to fund a nontraditional play and art garden in front of the Library. She briefly shared the plans for the potential relocation of the Active Adult Center.

Councilor Rohrbach volunteered Ms. Fox to help with the garden design because of her experience.

20-46. Other Business.

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
November 12, 2020

None

20-47. Adjournment.

There being no further business, Chairman Salley adjourned the meeting at 10:18 a.m.

Phommady A. Boucher
Deputy City Clerk

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
December 10, 2020

A Regular Meeting of the Environmental Citizens Committee was held on Thursday, December 10, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. electronically via ZOOM video conferencing at 300 West Thirteen Mile Road, Madison Heights, Michigan.

Present: Chairman Salley, Councilor Rohrbach, Mr. Lee and Ms. Fox

Also Present: City Manager Marsh, DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine, and Deputy City Clerk Boucher

Absent: Mr. Check, Ms. Haines, Mr. Nagengast, Ms. Sandoval and Mr. Work

20-48. Meeting Open to the Public.

There being no public comment, the meeting to the public was closed.

20-49. Excuse Member(s).

Motion by Rohrbach, seconded by Lee, to excuse Ms. Jenevieve Sandoval from today's meeting.

Yeas: Rohrbach, Salley, Lee and Fox

Nays: None

Absent: Check, Haines, Nagengast, Work and Sandoval

Motion Carried.

20-50. Minutes.

Motion by Rohrbach, seconded by Lee, to adopt the minutes from the Regular Meeting of November 12, 2020, as printed.

Yeas: Salley, Lee, Fox and Rohrbach

Nays: None

Absent: Check, Haines, Nagengast, Work and Sandoval

Motion Carried.

20-51. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda.

None

20-52. Tree Program.

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
December 10, 2020

DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine gave an update that the city was not awarded the DNR Tree Grant, although an initiative by the Water Resource Commission may provide funds for tree planting in the proposed areas in the near future. As for the Memorial Tree Phase II, there have been 75 new trees planted this year and an additional 21 trees will be planted in Spring 2021 for construction replacement. Memorial Tree requests will be accepted through May 1, 2021.

Chair Salley suggests the committee consider Miracle Drive as a street for tree planting.

City Manager Marsh does not expect an update from Tree City USA until the end of the calendar year.

20-53. Current Projects.

Ms. Fox informed that everything is on hold for the Bloom Project until Spring 2021. There are no updates for the Recycling Campaign until after the DPS Spring Clean-Up Day tentatively scheduled for May 8th.

DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine advised that the DTE Street Lighting construction is still scheduled for January and February of next year.

20-54. Upcoming Projects.

DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine spoke about Arbor Day ideas to include a volunteer program for next Spring and possibly a small tree planting demonstration at a park or individual home. He agreed that Miracle Drive could be a contender for the tree planting project. For the Arbor Day celebration the City can offer discounted memorial trees at the price of \$250 or \$275. DPS has done tree removals related to construction for a number of years and Miracle Avenue was one of the streets affected. The committee identified Guthrie, Rowland and Barrett that have also lost many trees due to road work and water main breaks. DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine recommends the committee members drive through the streets of Guthrie, Rowland, Barrett and Miracle. His recommendation is that trees are sold to individuals that attend a tree demonstration and shown how to care for their trees. DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine determined that based on the funds available, the committee can offer up to 15 trees and do a demonstration at the closest neighborhood park before targeting the designated streets. Huffman Park and former Sunset Park (now Madison Prep High School) are ideal for the tree planting demonstrations. The designated streets are ideal because there are no future construction plans in their areas.

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
December 10, 2020

City Manager Marsh reached out to ReLeaf Michigan to have them do a demonstration but she has not heard back from them. The volunteer program is put on hold because of the pandemic. City Manager Marsh suggests the committee consider the streets that were identified from the last ECC meeting as well as Miracle Avenue. She explained that a volunteer type event which was originally planned for Moulin anticipated 72 volunteers, a block party tree planting demonstration and 32 trees to be planted. This event would be labor intensive, requiring several hours of physical work and significant assistance from the DPS. For Arbor Day it was suggested to sell the trees and have people take them home to plant on their own but the trees are too big and could only be transported in a truck. There were discussions to have DPS or the tree contractor plant the trees for everyone that purchases a tree while the committee educates the community on tree planting dos and don'ts. The event will be planned around Arbor Day which is at the end of April or the beginning of May. City Manager Marsh proposed that the committee identifies the streets in need of trees. Then letters can be sent to these property owners giving them an opportunity to participate in a tree planting demonstration in order to receive a tree from DPS. The City has enough funding to offer 15-20 trees for this project. She shared that the escrow account currently has \$5,072 of funds available.

Councilor Rohrbach would like the committee to select streets that impact the most number of residents for the tree planting program. She shared that Releaf Michigan has one full time employee and all others are volunteers; they did 20 planting events this past Fall. Councilor Rohrbach will reach out to a representative at Releaf Michigan to come do a demonstration. Her suggestion is to sell the trees at full price then have DPS deliver and plant the trees. Councilor Rohrbach asked if DPS will monitor the trees for a period of time to ensure the planting is a success and for the committee not to favor able body residents over those who are not as mobile for the tree planting program. She recommends that the City provide the services and the residents are asked but not required to do any physical labor in order to qualify for the program.

Mr. Lee inquired about doing a tree demonstration in a public area to allow social distancing prior to planting a tree on authorized private properties. He suggests offering up to 5 trees per street and getting permission from random residents in order to plant trees on their property. After each committee member visits the identified streets, they can determine the right amount of trees to be planted per street. Mr. Lee asked if the city could partner with ABK Tree Services to make them aware of the tree planting program and have them provide professional advice to our residents.

Chair Salley inquired asked what happens if a resident that volunteers for the program becomes a no show. He reminded that there are a number of able body residents that can't afford to have a tree because they have been laid off since the beginning of the pandemic.

20-55. Member Attendance/Term Renewals.

City Manager Marsh noted that Alternate Crystal Fox has made the ECC meetings and volunteered her time to the committee's projects. She mentioned that Steven Check has only made two meetings since his appointment.

Chair Salley added that Alternate Dan Lee has made the ECC meetings as well.

DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine shared that Aaron Work has only attended one meeting since his appointment and Devon Nagengast has not attended any meetings.

20-56. Motion to recommend to City Council to remove Steven Check, Devon Nagengast and Aaron Work from the Environmental Citizens Committee and declare three seats vacant sending certificates of appreciation for their services

Motion by Rohrbach, seconded by Lee, to recommend to City Council to remove Steven Check, Devon Nagengast and Aaron Work from the Environmental Citizens Committee and declare three seats vacant sending certificates of appreciation for their services.

Yeas: Lee, Fox, Rohrbach and Salley
Nays: None
Absent: Check, Haines, Nagengast, Work and Sandoval
Motion Carried.

20-57. Escrow Account/Fundraising Update.

City Manager Marsh informed that the plant sale was the fundraiser for the Bloom Project but is on hold until Spring. The \$5,072 available for the tree planting program is funds donated by the marijuana companies. These companies set up nonprofit trust accounts with the City; the money is funneled to their priority list which includes trees and gardens. Holistic on Stephenson Highway has plans to plant a community garden. The City was approved for a \$10,000 grant OakStem from Oakland

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
December 10, 2020

County. The grant was cancelled and will be available in Spring/Summer 2021; the City would need to reapply.

DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine added that the City routinely applies for grants to help fund tree planting projects in the community. The Arbor Day Alliance grant paid \$2,000 towards trees matched by the City.

20-58. Open Discussion.

None

20-59. Other Business.

None

20-60. Adjournment.

There being no further business, Chairman Salley adjourned the meeting at 10:08 a.m.

Phommady A. Boucher
Deputy City Clerk

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
January 14, 2021

A Regular Meeting of the Environmental Citizens Committee was held on Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. electronically via ZOOM video conferencing at 300 West Thirteen Mile Road, Madison Heights, Michigan.

Present: Chairman Salley (Madison Heights, Oakland County, State of Michigan), Ms. Haines (Madison Heights, Oakland County, State of Michigan), Councilor Rohrbach (Madison Heights, Oakland County, State of Michigan), Ms. Sandoval (Madison Heights, Oakland County, State of Michigan), Mr. Lee (Madison Heights, Oakland County, State of Michigan) and Ms. Fox (Madison Heights, Oakland County, State of Michigan)

Also Present: City Manager Marsh (arrived @ 9:32 a.m.), DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine, and Deputy City Clerk Boucher

Absent: Mr. Check, Mr. Nagengast, and Mr. Work

21-01. Meeting Open to the Public.

There being no public comment, the meeting to the public was closed.

21-02. Minutes.

Motion by Lee, seconded by Rohrbach, to adopt the minutes from the Regular Meeting of December 10, 2020, as printed.

Yeas: Haines, Rohrbach, Salley, Sandoval, Lee and Fox

Nays: None

Absent: Check, Nagengast and Work

Motion Carried.

21-03. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda.

None

21-04. Tree Program.

DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine confirmed that the tree planting project is done for 2020 ending with 15 trees planted for the DDA along John R. Tree City USA is still pending and our application is still under review. A

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
January 14, 2021

report for the Arbor Day Alliance Grant will be submitted by the deadline of February 1st. DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine received a dozen request letters for the construction tree planting program and a second notice will be sent out by February 1st. He also received a half a dozen request letters for the memorial tree program. There have been at least 100 trees planted in 2020.

21-05. Current Projects.

Ms. Sandoval suggested plants that will withstand the elements and traffic for the median at 14 Mile Road and John R. Ms. Sandoval mentioned the Yucca plant for the garden because it is a hardy plant but noted that the height may be a concern. The Seed Donation is on hold and the seeds will be distributed to the public at the Public Library at a later date.

DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine stated that the primary goal is to beautify the median and the location is also must be considered for traffic safety. As a public space, the City cannot issue violations to pedestrians that use it as a walkway. Littering from vehicles and pedestrians is a concern in that area as well. The plants would need to be salt resistant and the berm is fully irrigated if needed. The City will need to communicate with the landscape contractor on the maintenance of the gardens created by the committee in the community. The business owners can be approached to contribute to the cost of the makeover for the median. DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine will provide the committee with the lot size and the maximum height for the plants at the median. He also commented that the DTE Street Lighting installation started in the Downtown Development District on John R from 10 Mile Road to 11 Mile Road.

Mr. Lee recommends a 6 inch fencing to surround the berm garden and it can catch ground level trash. He spoke about adding bluestem grass to the library garden plans. Mr. Lee requests for a contractor to excavate the area prior to the volunteers putting in the rain garden.

Ms. Fox suggests hardier plants or short bushes that do not require trimming. She mentioned planting beard tong in the garden because it has a terrible smell. As for the Recycling Campaign, a 15 second video will be created at the next Spring event for the residents.

City Manager Marsh shared that the City has been awarded \$54,000 from the KABOOM! Play Anywhere Grant. She reviewed the Public Library garden plans and it stated that it is projected to begin in Spring

or Summer of 2021. There will be a meeting with KABOOM! Play Anywhere Grant representatives and the City in February, followed by press releases. City Manager Marsh is asking for suggestions from both the Environmental Citizens Committee and the Arts & Culture Advisory Board for the Library garden. The City will likely have a sidewalk contractor build the patio, the DPS will install the musical instruments and volunteers will help put in the gardens. City Manager Marsh will provide the group with the dimensions of each section and the entire Library garden at a later date. She informed the committee that a business owner on John R did complain that the LED lights from the DTE Street Lighting installation are not bright enough.

21-06. Upcoming Projects.

DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine received feedback from the committee members to identify streets that need more trees planted. He advised that the Arbor Day Celebration is not expected to be a large volunteer event.

Chairman Salley thought Dei Avenue and Couzens Avenue needed more trees to be planted along its road. He suggests planting all 20 available trees on one street.

Councilor Rohrbach commented that Dei Avenue, Miracle Drive and Barrett Avenue needed more trees planted along its roads.

21-07. Escrow Account/Fundraising Update.

None

21-08. Open Discussion.

City Manager Marsh noted that the State Coordinator for the Arbor Day Foundation is still reviewing our Tree City USA application. The City should expect an answer by the 1st of April. City Council has received the recommendations for the ECC to not reappoint three members for lack of attendance. In February, the City Council will be appointing Mr. Lee and Ms. Fox as regular member. The ECC will have one (1) regular member opening and two (2) alternate openings thereafter, and she reviewed the qualifications. City Manager Marsh can provide formal recommendations to City Council for appointments to the committee.

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
January 14, 2021

Ms. Sandoval will share a link to the posting of all boards and commission openings on the Environmental Citizens Committee page and Neighborhood forum.

DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine advised that the next ECC meeting is February 18th and formal recommendations to City Council must be submitted by February 11th.

21-09. Other Business.

None

21-10. Adjournment.

There being no further business, Chairman Salley adjourned the meeting at 10:02 a.m.

Phommady A. Boucher
Deputy City Clerk

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
February 18, 2021

A Regular Meeting of the Environmental Citizens Committee was held on Thursday, February 18, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. electronically via ZOOM video conferencing at 300 West Thirteen Mile Road, Madison Heights, Michigan.

Present: Chairman Salley (Madison Heights, Oakland County, State of Michigan), Ms. Haines (Madison Heights, Oakland County, State of Michigan), Councilor Rohrbach (Madison Heights, Oakland County, State of Michigan), Ms. Sandoval (Madison Heights, Oakland County, State of Michigan) (left the meeting @ 10:45 a.m.), Mr. Lee (Madison Heights, Oakland County, State of Michigan) and Ms. Fox (Madison Heights, Oakland County, State of Michigan)

Also Present: Councilwoman Clark, City Manager Marsh (left the meeting @ 10:30 a.m.), DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine, and Deputy City Clerk Boucher

Absent: Mr. Check, Mr. Nagengast, and Mr. Work

21-11. Meeting Open to the Public.

Elizabeth Blomenberg at 1614 Middlesex Avenue, encouraged the City to plant trees along the main roads instead of minimally used roads. It would increase the tree canopy, slow traffic, increase foot traffic to businesses and improve the aesthetics. She asked that the City to address their tree selections and focus on planting native trees in the area. Ms. Blomenberg submitted her application to join the Environmental Citizens Committee and recently finished the Master Gardner course. She hopes to complete her volunteer hours working with the Bloom Project.

Shawn Polito, 1515 Connie Avenue, asked the City to consider his property for the tree planting project.

21-12. Minutes.

Motion by Mr. Lee, seconded by Councilor Rohrbach, to adopt the minutes from the Regular Meeting of January 14, 2021 as corrected.

Yeas: Haines, Rohrbach, Salley, Sandoval, Lee and Fox
Nays: None
Absent: Check, Nagengast and Work

Motion Carried.

21-13. Tree Program.

DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine reviewed the responses to the tree planting program. He noted cracks in sewer pipes are not caused by tree roots and reviewed the process for tree removal in right-of-ways. He stated that for the tree planting program, the list of recommended trees was developed in consultation with our nursery and arborist to determine what trees would thrive best in a city environment and are moderate growers and is in concurrence with ReLeaf Michigan and the Arbor Day Foundation. If the budget allows, DPS wants to develop a first come first serve tree lottery and send property owners notification. Those interested will be put on a list to have a tree planted on their property for either the current year or a future year. The DDA has budgeted \$5,000 a year for planting along the major roads in the downtown district; based on funding, there will be at least 15 trees planted per year in the DDA. He noted that the Storm Water Reduction grant specifies planting in the right-of-way and the City was reimbursed \$2,500 from the Arbor Day Alliance Planting grant.

City Manager Marsh announced that the City has been awarded the Tree City USA designation. A formal virtual award recognition program is scheduled for Wednesday, April 14th. The City applied for a DNR grant and was awarded \$9,680. The grant requires a minimum of 40 trees to be planted over a road or parking lot. City Manager Marsh asked the committee to finalize the Arbor Day tree planting streets and planting of the 40 trees from the DNR grant.

Members discussed the specifics of the tree planting program including: can old trees be taken down and replaced; what the responsibilities are of the City and the residents regarding larger trees and sewer drains; whether property owners can contact DPS directly with tree concerns; how DPS determines what trees are to be removed/replaced; whether a property owner can have a tree removed in the right-of-way and the requirements to do so; whether there is an option for the age of the trees being planted; the process of the tree selection and the possibility of a free or reduced cost tree program.

21-14. Current/Upcoming Projects.

The Bloom Project

City Manager Marsh stated that the City applied for a garden planting grant through Scott's Miracle Grow. An amount of \$500 - \$1000 can be

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
February 18, 2021

applied to the garden and art of the KaBoom Project Rain Garden. The City was awarded \$44,000 to plant rain gardens at Civic Center Park. The Clinton River Watershed Council (CRWC) has partnered with the City to do the rain garden layout, design and structure. They could offer the same services for the KaBoom Project Rain Garden depending on the timeline. She also noted that the KaBoom Project Rain Garden was highlighted on Fox 2 News earlier this week and there will be public engagements and volunteer efforts prior to the grand opening scheduled no later than October. As for the rain garden, City Manager Marsh stated it would be better to delay a decision on location until City Council makes a final decision on the Active Adult Feasibility Study. The CRWC has been asked to do the percolation test at the Civic Center Park and could assist with the KaBoom Project Rain Garden.

Members discussed ways to help offset the costs for the City's portion of the rain garden and KaBoom project.

Mr. Lathin, founder of Creating Sustainable Landscapes, LLC, specializes in native plants for pollinator gardens, rain gardens, prairie gardens and alternative lawns. He spoke to the membership on considerations such as the square footage of the impervious surface, the percolation rate and the soil type for the rain garden determines the suitable plant species as well as suggested design specifications.

Members discussed potential plant types and design of the walkway.

Arbor Day Celebration/Arbor Day Alliance Grant

City Manager Marsh updated that 14 trees will be planted for the Arbor Day Celebration and the location. The board has to determine whether to plant the 40 trees from the DNR grant in the neighborhoods or in a high traffic area and when the planting will occur.

DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine reviewed process and selection for the Arbor Day Tree Planting and asked the members to identify targeted streets so that DPS can notify residents.

Discussion followed on identifying homes for the Arbor Day planting on Barrett Avenue, E. Guthrie, E. Dallas, E. Rowland, E. Brockton, E. Hudson, and Lincoln Avenue in need of trees and notification of homeowners.

Ms. Fox stated her preference would be for the DNR grant trees to be planted in the residential area.

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
February 18, 2021

Motion by Mr. Lee, seconded by Councilor Rohrbach, to approve the streets of E. Rowland Avenue, E. Barrett Avenue, and E. Dallas Avenue between Tawas Street and Dei Street for the Arbor Day Celebration tree planting.

Yeas: Rohrbach, Salley, Sandoval, Lee, Fox and Haines
Nays: None
Absent: Check, Nagengast and Work
Motion Carried.

Seed Donation/Library

Ms. Sandoval stated that she anticipates the Seed Donation to be operating again as early as March 1st. There are plans to put together seed bundle packs for people to do a grab and go at the Public Library.

DTE Street Lighting

Mr. Ballantine stated that the DTE Street Lighting project is 25% complete; they are moving through the residential areas and major roads.

21-15. Member Attendance/Term Renewals.

City Manager Marsh stated that Council will appoint members to the ECC at the February 22nd City Council meeting. Members discussed the current applicants and openings. Any member who would like to express their preference should contact City Councilmembers directly. It was requested that the City Clerk send the current applications to the membership for review. It was the consensus that alternate members Lee and Fox be recommended for full terms.

21-16. Open Discussion.

Ms. Haines proposed that the City share on their Facebook page information on curbside compost for the residents.

Ms. Fox said in previous discussions the residents would be charged a fee for services and a fee for compost. Due to cost, the residents were encouraged to start their own compost.

Regular Meeting
Environmental Citizens Committee
February 18, 2021

Councilor Rohrbach appreciates the compost information provided by Ms. Haines; however, she has concerns of the City recommending a company which we have no contract with. She suggests the members to share the compost information on their personal social media pages. Councilor Rohrbach stated that she encourages collaboration amongst the boards; she shared that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board is looking to offer a Rain Barrel Workshop and the HREC is planning a Juneteenth Celebration on June 19th. Councilor Rohrbach asked to discuss sustainable communities and plans for electronic charging stations at a future meeting.

Mr. Lee commented that a discussion last July was to assign a member to find and provide compost information for the residents. He suggests changing the ECC meetings from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine stated the City does not make recommendations of services or companies to the public. The next ECC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 11th at 9 a.m. DPS Analyst/Planner Ballantine relayed a message from Councilwoman Clark to discuss changing the meeting time.

21-17. Meeting Date and Time Change.

Motion by Councilor Rohrbach, seconded by Ms. Fox, to approve changing the meeting time of the ECC to 1:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month.

Yeas: Salley, Lee, Fox, Haines and Rohrbach
Nays: None
Absent: Check, Nagengast, Sandoval and Work
Motion Carried.

21-18. Adjournment.

There being no further business, Chairman Salley adjourned the meeting at 11:16 a.m.

Phommady A. Boucher
Deputy City Clerk