

Keep Moline Beautiful

Meeting Minutes – 4:30pm, December 13th, 2018.

Held at Moline Municipal Services Building

Present: Rodd Schick, Lori Turner, Sue Ratkiewicz, Adam Guthrie, Kristen Bergren, Susan Wolf

Also attended: Mary Lind, Laura Chumbley, Amy Ciucci, Greg Johnson

Absent: Diane Slover

Sue Ratkiewicz called the meeting to order.

Motion to accept the minutes of the November 8th, 2018 meeting was made and seconded. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Committee Reports and Updates:

- The commission will continue to identify projects for KMB. Rodd will email the Goals/Objectives updated worksheets, the KMB mission statement and our KMB materials which were submitted to Keep America Beautiful to the KMB commission members so that we will have information at-the-ready when grants become available.
 - Downtown Events: Adam informed the Commission that Moline Centre was granted \$40,000 to identify and develop a public art, pocket park masterplan along the Moline riverfront. Adam is revising the vague language of the RFP contract for the Special Services Area downtown planters flower selection. He hopes to have the bids include a training session for his watering employees from the nursery vendor and he will look into filling empty tree pits with plants too. Greg noted that the City replaced the dead birches near the Moline YMCA boathouse.
 - Garden Guardians: Greg commented that the Garden Guardian signs have been pulled out of the gardens for the winter season and the ornamental grasses have been cut.
 - QC Earth Coalition Update: Kristen reported the Quad Cities Earth Coalition Summer Passport program, in which the City and KMB are sponsors, was evaluated at the last meeting; the idea is that from May through Labor Day, children and families will get their passports stamped for attending City activities or visiting City parks and trails. For summer 2019, the Coalition intends to increase awareness of the passport program through social media outlets, with more organizations represented on the passport. Kristen will get together with Moline Parks and Recreation Director, Lori Wilson, to discuss advertising in the City brochure. Kristen noted that Niabi Zoo will host their Earth Day event again and inquired about KMB participation.
 - School Outreach: Moline High School teacher, Amy Ciucci, informed the Commission that Moline High School will partner with Healthy Harvest Urban Farms in Downtown Rock Island to create a Giving Garden at the high school, with ground breaking hopefully happening this spring. All produce will be donated to families in the Moline community and to the recently created Moline High School Food Pantry. Amy said hoop gardens will be set up for veggie growing this spring, through a grant from Sprouting Minds. There are hopes for a chemical-free orchard to be planted in the future as well. Greg and Lori offered advice on orchard planting, pests and maintenance. Amy explained that the project is under the Green Moline High School Club, but that many academic departments at the high school will have a role in the project. For example, the industrial tech department will draft the plans for the raised beds, the math classes will calculate square footage needed for garden layout, and the language departments will provide multi-lingual signage.

New Business:

- Rodd asked for volunteers for a Commission committee to work on a video promotion of the new City recycling program. Volunteers will brainstorm video storyboard ideas and flesh out the information for the ad which could appear on the City website, social media and the news. Kristen and Sue volunteered to work on this with Rodd. Kristen suggested inviting a WQAD representative to join the committee meeting. Rodd also presented the updated recycle and garbage collection City website pages and noted that glass is properly advertised as one of the new single stream recycling items on the City site (not to be confused with the link to the county Drop-Off sites which do not take glass). The Commission discussed other ways to advertise the new program as well; Mary suggested that some sort of informational brochure be included in the water bills, Amy suggested an ad on a billboard, Kristen suggested advertising on the Uptown Moline sign and Susan suggested a Kinkos yard banner near the street on Public Works' grounds. Kristen suggested advertising the City notification system sign-up on a newsfeed scroll across the bottom of tv screens. Amy informed the Commission of a new free app called "Nextdoor", (a communications platform for neighborhoods which is being used by some municipalities to connect with their citizens), which may be a good additional mechanism for informing Moliners about City notifications etc...
- Via email, Diane suggested that KMB hand out a press release directly to the reporter on the night of the Moline Recycles Super Hero award at the City Council meeting in hopes of getting better coverage. She suggested that information be posted on City website pages about how and where to recycle hard-to-recycle products and asked why companies like Terracycle couldn't be listed on the City's webpage <http://moline.il.us/521/Items-Prohibited-in->

[Garbage](#) since for-profit stores like Batteries Plus appear on that page. Diane also suggested that KMB compile an annual letter for the public that recounts the yearly savings from recycling and/or other accomplishments of the Public Works department.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 5:35pm. Motion seconded and passed.

Next meeting will be at 4:30pm, Thursday, January 10th, 2019 at the Moline Municipal Services Building.

Submitted by Susan Wolf, Secretary, Keep Moline Beautiful Commission