

Keep Moline Beautiful

Meeting Minutes – May 10th, 2012
Held at Moline Public Works

Attended by: Sue Ratkiewicz, Kristen Bergren, Lori Turner, Doug House, Susan Wolf, Mary Lind, Kathryn Allen, Diane Slover, Rodd Schick, Marcia Lintz. Also in attendance were Garden Guardians: Tamia Keppy, Jo Burns, Mary Kay Johnson, Sharon Johnson, Vanessa Anderson, Linda Davidson, Kathi Ruud, and Sue Walker.

Sue Ratkiewicz called the meeting to order.

Diane moved to accept the minutes of the April 12th meeting. Lori seconded. Motion carried.

Old Business:

- Garden Guardians:
 - Mary welcomed the Garden Guardians to the meeting and Doug thanked them on behalf of the City of Moline for their volunteerism, time, effort and expertise to beautify the city through KMB's program. Mary and Rodd drew up revised guidelines and expectations for 2012 participation. Mary and Rodd maintain the Garden Guardian contact information. Rodd offered the City's help with mulch and garden waste pickup and Garden Guardians can contact Rodd with watering issues. Rodd will check on whether a memorial bench can be stenciled on. Rodd explained that only the City staff should administer pesticides and herbicides; the gardeners asked that the gardens be checked for poison ivy. Mary will send out the list of rain garden recommended plants.
- Earth Week Fair:
 - Doug reported that the City staffed the booth on Friday and served over 2400 children. Saturday was staffed by KMB volunteers but was slower. The booth will be recreated for the City Touch-a-Truck event on May 19th.
- Blue Can Group / Recycling Education:
 - Kristen requested a small gift for the non-winning class participants of the mural contest. Rodd will see what items we have left.

Committee Reports:

- Cool Cities:
 - Kathryn reported on recent Cool Cities news; "Oak Park is the first municipality in the state to choose all green electricity. The city has signed a two-year contract with Chicago-based Integrys Energy Services to supply electricity and credits from 100 percent green sources like wind and solar, lessening the dependence on fossil fuels while still saving local customers about 25 percent over ComEd." More Illinois cities are beginning to convert to green renewable power plans by electric aggregation power plans which allows a city to bundle "all residential and commercial customers and then use it collective bargaining power to negotiate lower prices from suppliers. A municipality may select an energy provider that offers the cheapest rates, the cleanest forms of energy, or a combination of both." Kathryn informed the board of a webinar available on municipal aggregation at <http://www.elmhurstcoolcities.org/aggregation-webinar.html>. Doug explained that Moline investigated this idea but at that point MidAmerican Energy was providing cheaper energy for the City than other power plants in other Illinois cities, so it wasn't cost effective. There was a suggestion that a MidAmerican Energy representative come visit an upcoming KMB meeting to discuss this idea.
- Great American Cleanup:
 - Rodd Schick reported that so far this year, there have been about 14 events, utilizing over 300 volunteers in Moline. Activities have included painting shelters and mulching. Clean up hasn't been as bad this year - there has been less to clean and volunteers have gotten out earlier, due to the mild weather.
- Adopt a Park and Street: No news

- Join Hands Day: No news.
- College Projects: No news.
- Arbor Day: No news.
- America Recycles Day: No news.
- XStream Clean up: No news.
- Neighborhood Partnership: No news.

New Business:

- Rodd Schick reported on the May 2, 2012 Keep IL Beautiful meeting in Springfield. KAB has developed a \$50 Waste in Place kit, which is early childhood driven, and targets grades K-6. It includes books with activities, story cards, teachers' manuals, and Old Maid type cards. The new KAB education coordinator is Cecile Carson, from TX. Several affiliates are increasing their recycling efforts, such as recycling drives for medicine. It was proposed that KMB discuss partnering such an event with another affiliate, such as Rock Island, at the next meeting.
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- Doug House said a group called "The Bluffs" has been working on 15th Street where crab trees were cut down.

Mary Lind made a motion to dispense with the remainder of the agenda and made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Doug House seconded. Motion carried.

Submitted by Temporary Secretary, Keep Moline Beautiful Commission.