

Buffalo Grove Environmental Action Committee

Meeting minutes, November 19, 2009

Debi Moritz called the meeting to order at 7PM. Present were

Laura Anderson	Jill Stites
Walter Pituc	Jeff Spitz
Cathy Verscheiden	Erika Strojinc
Matt Pomilia	Linda Spitz
Nadine Pomilia	Sarah Schultz
Steve White	Mary White
Debi Moritz	Susan Levy
Jeff Weiss	

We welcomed two new members, Laura Anderson and Jill Stites, and both of them joined committees! We now have 41 members.

Future activities

We discussed and scheduled future projects, based on preference voting from the last meeting. Members were eager to lead or join committees for each project!

Habitat restoration – December 12, at Busch Grove Park, 9-Noon. Matt Pomilio, matthew.pomilio@gmail.com, with help from Jeff Weiss, marjeff1@aol.com, will lead a morning of clearing invasive brush, following up on two prior events earlier this year.

Social event – January 14 at 6 PM. A winter potluck will celebrate our first anniversary. Susan Levy, katzanddog@comcast.net, is organizing the event and will send further information.

Recycling – Mid-March. Back by popular demand, we will sponsor a recycling or spring clean up event. Debi Moritz, tooblueis@aol.com, described new law changes which govern the type of cyber-trash collection we sponsored in 2009. Cathy Verscheiden offered to involve her employer, Siemens, in the effort. A committee was formed, with Debi, Cathy, Linda Spitz, Susan Levy and Laura Anderson to plan the event.

Adopt-a-highway road cleanup – early April and late September. Debi researched open areas with Cook and Lake County. We tentatively decided to adopt a stretch of Hwy 83 south of Lake Cook Road. Linda Spitz LINDASU4@aol.com and Jeff Spitz jeffs10205@aol.com will work with the county and co-lead this project.

Habitat Restoration – May. Jeff Weiss recommended we continue our work at Busch Grove Park rather than the Buffalo Grove Nature Preserve. Leaders are Sarah Schultz, sschultz65@hotmail.com, Matt Pomilio and Jeff Weiss.

Buffalo Creek clean water project – June or July. Jeff Weiss described the water quality issues and the early stages of current efforts to identify sources of pollution in the Buffalo Creek sub-watershed. Compared to adjoining watersheds, especially Flint and Indian Creeks, water quality is worse and less is being done for Buffalo Creek. Jeff proposed that the Team participate in the RiverWatch program, which involves training

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to become certified monitors of stream health, and locate pollution sources. Committee members are Joan Karnauskas, Jill Stites, Matt Pomilio, Mary White and Susan Levy.

Greener BG Days – September. Debi, as a member of the BG Days committee, will introduce the idea of a greener community festival and offer Team involvement to assist in reducing trash, encouraging use of bicycles, implementing recycling and other “green” ideas.

Other topics discussed include

BG Farmers Market. Susan described the new farmers market, planned for Sundays near the Spray and Play parking lot on Route 83. There will be an opportunity for the Team to have a booth at one of the sessions and pitch in to make this a success.

Solar/wind demo project. Steve White reported on his installation of solar panels at his home and wind spire at Devon Bank in Wheeling. Jeff Weiss will set up meetings with the Park District and Village officials to propose a demo project in the Village.

BG Garden Club. Jeff Weiss proposed joint activity to the president of the Garden Club. This will be discussed at their next board meeting.

School programs. Walter proposed programs at schools to present environmental education programs. This idea was discussed. Siemens is already offering Science Days for 5th graders, and there are many other possibilities.

BG Park District Board presentation. Erika suggested we engage with the Park District commissioners. Jeff Weiss will ask to get on the agenda for a meeting in January.