

## Buffalo Grove Environmental Action Team

Meeting minutes, May 14, 2009

The meeting of the Buffalo Grove Environmental Action Team (EAT) was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Attendees were

Mary White  
Debi Moritz  
Susan Levy  
Joan Karnauskas  
Jeff Weiss

Meeting minutes

**Earth Day Recycling and Environmental Education Event .** Huge success! Debi related several ideas about whether and how to repeat this event, or conduct other recycling events in the future. Good job by Erika to get thank you's out to volunteers. Jeff will get photos and a copy of the Gold Medal video from Mike Terson for distribution to members.

**Park Restoration Project.** Jeff reported out on plans for the restoration day.

- Sarah and Jeff met with Parks and got commitment of funds for equipment, seeds, plants and trees.
- Sarah will be purchasing plants and materials from a local nursery.
- Kim Cashmore is coordinating the event for the Park District, and will arrange refreshments for volunteers. Sarah and Jeff will meet with Kim to finalize plans.
- A press release was sent out last week. Need to follow up and get flyers posted at Alcott and other locations.
- With Todd Katz, Sarah and Jeff, we have 3 experienced land stewards and enough capacity to manage 50 or more volunteers.
- We have one scout group of 10 signed up so far, as well as several of our members (Joan, Susan, Martha, Mary and Steve).

**Future events.** We had a discussion of where we go from here as a Team.

1. **Volunteer picnic.** Our next meeting will be at the BGPD volunteer picnic. Jeff will get the date from Erika.
2. **Green architecture tour.** Steve will schedule a green architecture tour.
3. **Buffalo Grove Days.** Debi has secured a table for us. Jeff will ask Erika how to get a banner with our name and logo for the table. Several ideas were presented for how to participate. Mary would like to discuss chemical-free lawn maintenance. Todd would like to keep up organic foods as a theme. Jeff would consider a free handout of a seed collection. Specifics to be determined.
4. **Public survey.** Debi and Joan will develop ideas for a survey of BG residents interest in various "green" topics, as a way to gauge public

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- interest and awareness of the topics we are working on, suggest possible future projects, and attract new members.
5. **BG Garden Club.** Several ideas were considered about how to align with the Garden Club and perhaps conduct a joint event or participate in a Garden Club meeting. Susan will consider this and report out her ideas and draft a letter of interest to the Club from our Team.
  6. **Watershed/storm water management.** Jeff will contact Greg Boysen, head of BG Public Works to set up a meeting including Joan to review what he presented at the Health Fair and determine what we can do as a Team.
  7. **Other topics.**
    - a. Green Festival this weekend at Navy Pier
    - b. Renewable energy
    - c. Dane County's "hazmat swap meet," where citizens bring in and exchange materials such as unopened paint and chemicals, so that they can be reused instead of disposed.
    - d. Green Crafting, crafts made from recycled materials
    - e. White Pine Trail. New bike path along Buffalo Creek. The Park District is also working on a Bike the Grove event. We should find out more and see if we can participate.