

Buffalo Grove Environmental Action TEAM

Meeting minutes, April 5, 2011

Minutes from the April 5 BG Environmental Action Team meeting. The meeting was called to order at 7 pm.

We welcomed current members

Jeff and Linda Spitz

Jill Stites

Jeff Weiss

Tony Schaefer

Deenie Pomillia

Steve White

Mark Steurer

Susan Levy

Dan Schimmel, Executive Director of the BG Park District, addressed the group and provided updates on several topics. The Park District will

- dedicate resources for natural landscaping and passive use of our core parks to supplement current strengths in recreational programming and active use areas
- conserve energy in our facilities by swapping out old lighting systems for high efficiency lighting on motion detectors. Work is already accomplished at the Alcott Center, with Emmerich and the Fitness Center to follow. Dan recognized Steve White's contributions at Alcott.
- dedicate some of staff member, Rick Missing's time to coordinate environmental initiatives for the Park District, including liaison with EAT

Standing Committee reports

1. **Community Education** – Deenie and Wendy will set up a meeting to coordinate recycling exhibit with Raupp Museum staff. Refrigerator magnets will be ready to go for next event – probably the Farmers Market in June.
2. **Publicity** – Tony reported on our Facebook page. WE NEED CONTENT! Please post articles and comments to maintain interest in our site.
<http://www.facebook.com/BG.EAT#!/BG.EAT?sk=wall>

2011 Event plans and dates

1. **Adopt-a-highway** – We had a successful road cleanup on April 3. Next one will be in October.
2. **Alternative energy** – Steve reported out on discussions with WT Energy and potential options for wind generation at Rylko Park. We will attempt to prepare a presentation for a May Park District Board meeting.
3. **Bike/alternative transportation** – no update.
4. **Earth Day**– EAT will co-sponsor a cleanup day at Rylko Park on April 30, from 9-noon. Meet on the Deerfield Road side east of the Fitness Center for litter cleanup, brush clearing and planting native plants.
5. **Greenfest** – Greenfest is set for May 13-15 at McCormick place. Jill will look into and publicize EAT participation opportunities.
6. **Habitat restoration** – May 21 is Habitat day at Rylko Park. Jeff will recruit scout and other community groups to pitch in with EAT for a productive workday.

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7. **Recycling** – Tony announced that September 24 is set for the next electronics recycling event at Siemens. EAT will again be a co-sponsor and provide volunteers, subject to a new waiver form required by Siemens.
8. **BG Days** – The BG Days committee has met and Debi will update us next meeting. The plan is to continue and expand our presence and recycling efforts.
9. **Farmers Market** – EAT will exhibit at the Market opening on June 19 and conduct another bicycle event on July 17 or 24 from 8 am-12:30 pm. The committee consisting of Wendy Frank, Mark, Deenie and Jerry Meyerhof will finalize a date and continue planning bike collection and other attractions. Jeff Weiss has a commitment from the BG Police Department to participate.

Member updates

- We discussed offsite power generation consortiums. They can reduce energy costs while supporting alternative energy sources.
- Stevenson HS has either gold or platinum LEED certification.
- We will follow up to see how Thomas School and Prairie View are doing with their wind generation projects.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00. The next meeting is set for May 17 at 7 pm. Mark your calendars!

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Weiss
Founder, BG EAT
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