



Buffalo Grove Park District



MINUTES ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION TEAM MEETING BUFFALO GROVE PARK DISTRICT MARCH 8, 2012

Jeff Weiss called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Martha Weiss was introduced as the liaison from the Park District to the committee. Paul Mendez, a senior at Buffalo Grove High School, was introduced as a new member.

1. Electricity aggregation referendum

- EAT members Jeff Weiss, Steve White, Wendy Frank and Debbie Moritz met with Deputy Village Manager Ghida Neukirch and Village Health Officer Brian Sheehan regarding the electric aggregation referendum on March 20. Wendy Frank volunteered to write an opinion letter to the newspapers regarding the referendum.
- We agreed that we need to track what happens on this once the referendum passes. There is a risk that the villages will opt for cheap energy and make it more difficult to opt for clean energy.

2. Rain barrel sales - pickup on April 7

- Mark Steuer volunteered to staff the distribution of the rain barrels on April 7.

3. Adopt-a-highway - April 21

- Team members are encouraged to help out – come to Siemens at 1000 Busch Parkway between 10:00 a.m. and noon on Saturday, April 21st.

4. Buffalo Creek Clean Water Partnership stakeholders meeting - April 25

- There will be the first stakeholders meeting of the newly formed Buffalo Creek Clean Water Partnership at Village Hall on Wednesday, April 25th at 7:00 p.m. Jeff Weiss has organized this new group which includes eight communities and several agencies involved in flood and erosion control and water quality.

5. Habitat restoration day at Rylko Park - April 28

- A habitat restoration day is scheduled at Rylko Park on Saturday, April 28th from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Any interested team member is encouraged to attend. The Boy Scouts from Troop 140 will be invited.

6. Greenfest

- It was decided that the event should be called the Green Fair and the location will be south of the Farmers Market in the parking lot in front of the softball fields. There was a discussion about ideas for booths and what kind of activities the committee would like to see there. Debi suggested a raffle for a rain barrel. The Skokie Park District will be hosting an event called Spring Greening at Niles North High School on Sunday, April 29 from 10 to 4 in case team members are interested in attending.

7. Community composting

- The Farmers Market committee did not support the idea of community composting during Farmers Market days. We decided to approach farmers at the Farmers Market on the date of our Green Fair to see if they would be receptive to the idea.

8. Lost Prairie exhibit - May 2

- The committee will be meeting soon regarding this exhibit about the pristine prairie found in Buffalo Grove. There will be a program on May 2 from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Raupp Museum featuring Stephen Apfelbaum, the person who discovered the lost prairie. There will also be an opening for the exhibit at a time to be determined.

9. Bicycle event

- Mark Steuer will be organizing this event to be held during one of the July Farmers Market days where the public brings in their unused bicycles. They will be donated to Working Bikes Cooperative to be refurbished and shipped overseas to help women and children get to jobs and school.

10. Membership

- Deenie sent out an email to all the names on the EAT list (all 95 of them) to ask about their continued interest in the committee.

11. Member updates

- The Village's e-news contains an explanation of the upcoming electric aggregate referendum.

12. Future meetings

- The next meeting is April 19th at 7:00 p.m. at Alcott Community Center.
- The May meeting is May 17th at 7:00 p.m. at Alcott Community Center.