

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE

March 16, 2005 - Meeting Minutes

City Hall – 2nd Floor – Community Room

Members Present: Mike McCarville, Todd Kesselring, Ted Lupina and James Jeakle

Approved Absence: Tom Hohm

Staff: Carolyn Rutland

Others: None

APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF: February 16, 2005:

- Delete bullet under NEW BUSINESS, replace with “None”. Under SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS, combine the first and second bullets and move the third bullet to after ADJOURNMENT. Under ADJOURNMENT, change from 6:20 pm to 6:00 pm.
- The minutes were approved as corrected.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

- The agenda was approved as submitted

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Renewable Energy Conference, Pierce Cedar Creek Institute, Saturday, March 19.
- Kalamazoo River Watershed Council January/February 2005 Newsletter.
- EPA Allied Paper/Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River Superfund Site March 2005 Newsletter Zoning Ordinance Review Workshop, Wednesday, March 16, 2005
- Carolyn Rutland announced that the next View From the Curb newsletter would contain a request for ECC membership allocations.

COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS:

- None

COMMENTS BY ECC MEMBERS:

- Mike McCarville announced that the Educational Committee of the 319 Project has met with Kalamazoo Public Schools high and middle school and Kalamazoo Christian High School science teachers to interest them in developing projects along the creeks, especially macroscopic invertebrate surveys. Training is available for the teachers. McCarville also shared information about plans for Axtell Creek Park in the Crosstown Ponds project.
- Todd Kesselring suggested advertising for ECC members in the neighborhood association newsletters; Jim Jeakle will follow up.

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COMMENTS BY OTHERS:

- None

OLD BUSINESS:

- None

NEW BUSINESS:

- Members discussed subjects to cover with the City Administration: reminder of ECC presence, qualifications and readiness to help, need for new members, upcoming City issues ECC can help with and encouraging staff to consult the ECC. Work on agenda will continue via email.
- The following subcommittees are active: Planning Commission (Hohm); Asylum Lake (Kesselring); 319 Projects/Crosstown Ponds (McCarville); Tree Committee (Lupina); Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB); Pesticide Herbicide Advisory Committee (PHAC)(McCarville); Woods Lake and TMDL.

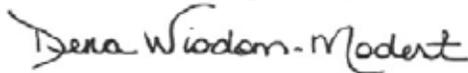
SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Asylum Lake – Todd Kesselring attended the February meeting. A walking trail/boardwalk around the lake was discussed; any “structure” would be consistent with the Nature Center report on sensitive areas.
- Duane Hampton (WMU Geosciences Professor) talked about the ground water monitoring wells constructed by his department. There are approximately 70 wells. Some are in use for graduate student research; some are in use for a long term U.S. Geological Survey study. Many could be properly abandoned. The Geosciences department does not have the budget to do so. WMU administration supports reducing the number of wells at the site.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Transcribed and respectfully submitted,



Environmental Services Division Secretary
Department of Public Services
Harrison Street Facility