

**CITY OF LAKE SAINT LOUIS
GREEN ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 30, 2011**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Lake Saint Louis Civic Center Board Conference Room.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chairman Ed Young, Vice Chairman Scott Ellis, Keith Stone, and Alderman John Pellerito. Absent: Committeewomen Ann Finklang and Dana Delibovi. Also present: Steve Schertel, Director of Community Development, and Brenda Cueller, acting as recording secretary.

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Young called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA:

Vice Chairman Ellis made a motion to approve the September 30, 2011 Green Environmental Advisory Committee regular meeting agenda. The motion was seconded by Committeeman Stone and the motion carries.

THE AGENDA FOR THE SEPTEMBER 30, 2011 GREEN ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING AGENDA IS HEREBY APPROVED, AS NOTED ABOVE.

MINUTES: July 29, 2011

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES:

Vice Chairman Ellis made a motion to approve the July 29, 2011 Green Environmental Advisory Committee regular meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Committeeman Stone and the motion carries.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE JULY 29, 2011 GREEN ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES IS HEREBY APPROVED, AS NOTED ABOVE.

GENERAL DISCUSSIONS:

1. UPDATE ON THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT GRANT

Vice Chairman Ellis stated the first quarter ended September 25th and a report was sent. Fifty (50) outside recycle bins have been ordered and are due any time in the City. The City, Lake Saint Louis Community Association and the country club are to receive the bins which will be placed in parks, marinas, and other public spaces.

Vice Chairman Ellis stated the bids for outside dumpsters have been received and he talked to Eric Sterman, Assistant City Administrator, and Christian Environmental Services. The City is going with the low bidder for the 10 dumpsters, which will be ordered and then be given to Christian Services in their commercial recycling business. Some of those dumpsters will hopefully end up with the LSL Community Association and country club. Vice Chairman Ellis said all the paperwork that the Solid Waste Management District wanted was submitted yesterday and are waiting to receive approval so the order can be placed.

Vice Chairman Ellis said the next item will be the 4,500 recycling stickers to placed on existing residential recycling bins. Bids have been received, a summarization needs to be done in order to talk with Eric Sterman, Assistant City Administrator, and Christian Environmental Services, and then put together the paperwork to get approval for the stickers.

Vice Chairman Ellis said nothing has been done with the recycling information sheet, noting that the first three items will come in a little over budget.

2. UPDATE ON THE BIO-RETENTION SYSTEM AND RAIN GARDEN PROJECT

Vice Chairman Ellis said the planting for the bio-retention system and rain garden went rather quickly. The ladies with the Lake Saint Louis Garden Club did the planting. Everything was covered with compost and the signs were already erected. Ann Finklang was present and took many pictures.

3. UPDATE OCTOBER 15, 2011 ELECTRONICS RECYCLING EVENT

Chairman Young said he has contacted a number of local businesses for donations. Christian Environmental Services sent in a check for \$100 to WITS and St. Joseph Hospital West wants to contribute \$150. Chairman Young said he has a meeting with NISC today and a meeting with Angela Hauss to go over the details of the recycling event. Chairman Young said he and Alderman Pellerito will meet with Lowe's on October 4th regarding donating to the event.

Chairman Young said the information regarding the event is on the City's website. He stated he spoke with Patch, the online newspaper, and was told they would place the information on their site. Chairman Young said he sent all the information regarding the event to Newstime and Mid Rivers Magazine and is waiting to hear back from them. The City will send out an email regarding the event from their email list. Charlotte Norton has agreed to send out information on her extensive email list.

Alderman Pellerito said he has had some Homeowner Association meetings and has shared the information with them.

The Committee had a discussion regarding volunteers and the time for the event.

Chairman Young said he contacted Gundaker to ask if they would pay for the thank you ad after the event. He was informed that the person who is responsible for donations at Gundaker was out of the office and would meet with him next week.

4. COMMUNICATION UPDATE

Chairman Young said additional "Caring for the City" brochures will be printed for the Oktoberfest.

5. GREEN BUSINESS UPDATE

Chairman Young said Ann Finklang was not present to give her update. He talked about the traditional fertilizer people use on their lawn noting that it is quite destructive to their yard. An alternative that works extremely well is organic fertilizer that is not salt-based and a discussion was held regarding organic fertilizers. Chairman Young explained the plan he has been using on his lawn noting that making residents aware of the type of fertilizer being used can harm the lakes.

6. OTHER OLD BUSINESS

Alderman Pellerito said the Energy Audit is complete.

The Committee discussed reviewing some of the City ordinances.

Chairman Young stated that Dana Delibovi said she could write another article for October and after a brief discussion, it was noted to contact Dana about writing an article of composting.

7. OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Young said the Committee was getting ready for the recycling event and the recycling containers event.

Vice Chairman Ellis asked Committeeman Stone about having a fieldtrip to a wind farm and a solar farm. The Committee had a brief discussion regarding visits to wind and solar farms.

8. DISCUSSION OF “TO DO” LIST, LONG-TERM ACTION PLAN, AND ANY NEW INITIATIVES FOR THE COMMITTEE

Alderman Pellerito spoke about his recent trip to Canada and how they handle trees, green space, walking/bike paths in their cities and not allowing certain fertilizers to be utilized. He noted they have very restrictive ordinances and because of those restrictions, they have beautiful cities.

Chairman Young spoke briefly of certain criteria that Michigan does and does not allow in their cities.

To Do List:

- Improve Committee website
- Implement recommendations for City Hall operation and staff activities to reduce energy use and carbon emissions.
- Expand this energy analysis for other Lake Saint Louis buildings and households.
- Inform and educate the community through the website and articles in Newstime and The Happenings.
- Help to conserve green space, trees, and bike paths in the community.
- Consider storm water management plan and other water quality issues.
- Inform residents regarding utilization of pesticides and fertilizers on their lawn.
- Assist City staff in application for energy efficiency and other sustainability grants.
- Learn about City ordinances and building codes that promote energy efficiency and “green” living.
- Amend ordinance regarding landscaping plans to encourage use of native plants.
- Promote more participation in recycling in City.
- Promote greater use by the City and individuals of compact fluorescent lights (CFL).

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- Establish a safe disposal location for CFL's.
- Investigate reuse of yard wastes collected in the City.
- Place home kwh measuring devices in local libraries.

LONG-TERM ACTION PLAN:

- Provide "green" recommendations to the Board of Aldermen and City Staff, including energy conservation, recycling program, green space preservation, transportation choices, and enhanced water quality practices.
- Establish long-term practices for education of citizens for green/sustainable living.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting is Friday, October 28, 2011, at 9:00 a.m. in the Lake Saint Louis Civic Center Board Conference Room.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR OCTOBER 28 2011:

1. Approval of September minutes and October agenda.
2. Update on the Solid Waste Management District grant.
3. Update October 15, 2011 Electronics Recycling event.
4. Communication update.
5. Green business update.
6. Other old business.
7. Other new business. (Green trails, Storm water)
8. Discussion of "To Do" list, long-term action plan, and any new initiatives for the committee.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:47 a.m.

Approved

Brenda Cueller
Serving as recording secretary of the meeting