

**ERCFC
MEETING MINUTES
April 1, 2009**

In Attendance:

Kris Roselle, Chair
Karen Fields
Liz Hunter
Greg Sunday
Steve Welte
Veronica Craig
Ben Strickler, Parks and Recreation Representative
Bob Breen, Parks Board Liaison
Wendi Van Buren, Regional Urban Forester, Division of Forestry

Meeting was called to order at 6:06 pm.

Welcome of New Members and Special Guest: The ERCFC welcomed two new members, Liz Hunter and Greg Sunday, and Regional Urban Forester with the Division of Forestry in Columbus, Wendi Van Buren.

Minutes: Last month's meeting minutes (3/4/2009) were approved with no changes.

Standing Business

Correspondence/Articles: Bob Breen suggested articles shared by members be scanned and shared via internet so they can be read thoroughly. Veronica brought in articles on LED lights saving energy costs and simplifying recycling. A card was sent to Tim Coats thanking him for his help at the Birdhouse Workshop.

Hours Spent on ECFC Activities: Kris-5, Karen-1.5, Bob-2, Veronica.5, Steve-11.

Adopt-a-Roadway: Bob completed the March clean-up for Muskopf Road.

Parks Board Report

Bob reported that the Sustainability Plan was the main topic of the meeting. Parks Board will review and discuss the plan and it will be up for endorsement next month. This will ensure measurable goals to track progress and will be a positive step for environmental maintenance.

Parks Department Report

Website Update: Ben had no new website statistics. He will forward them when they become available.

Memorial Tree Grove Update: Tree removal and clean up continue. The utility company will do some bank work to shore up against erosion. The pathway will be started. Ben is in charge of this aspect and is looking into permeable, green materials.

GPS/Street Tree Inventory Update: Derek Hunter has set up a program based on aerial photos and information requested by the Commission. Ben will demonstrate the new method at the next ERCFC meeting.

EAB Update: New detection trees will be set up. Wendi reported that EAB is probably spreading even more aggressively after last September's windstorm generated so much new firewood.

Commission Reports

Bird feeder Workshop Update: Seven people attended. This year's plan called for a recycled plastic bottle. Steve's neighbor and Tim Coats helped with the project.

Backyard Habitat Tour: Discussion was tabled until next month.

Recycling Tour: Mike is looking into a Saturday tour for the ERCFC.

Energy Committee Report: Kris had no new information. She suggested that an ERCFC member attend the Energy Committee meetings every 2-3 months.

River Sweep Update: Steve reported that this year's river clean-up, sponsored by the Groundwater Consortium, will be held on Saturday, May 2. Tim McLelland will set up the booth. The ERCFC members will check in volunteers, give instructions, and help monitor the recyclables and trash. Lunch will be served.

Sustainability Plan: To be discussed next month.

Website Content: Tabled until next month.

Home Expo: Will be held Saturday, April 4 at the CAC. The ERCFC will have two tables – one for trees and one for the environment/recycling component.

New Business

Regional Urban Forest News: Special guest Wendi Van Buren reported on the establishment of the "Tree Commission Academy." It will feature training sessions for interested urban foresters. There will be four sessions, freshman, sophomore, junior and senior. Together they will comprise a sort of "Urban Forestry 101." Catalogs will be available at the Tree City Luncheon.

Election of Officers: Kris moved to postpone the election of officers.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 6, 2009, 6:00 pm, CAC

Calendar:

Home Expo – April 4, 2009

Parks Board Meeting – April 14, 2009, 5:30 pm, CAC

Tree City Luncheon – 4/17/2009 at the Hamilton Marriott

Great Miami River Sweep – 5/2/2009, Groh Lane

ERCFC Meeting – 5/6/2009, 6:00 pm, CAC

Summer Concert – 5/28/2009, 6:30 pm, Village Green

Adjournment: at 7:20 pm.