



## Meeting Minutes - *Draft*

August 26, 2019 5:30 PM

3rd floor west meeting room, Rapid City Administration building, 300 6th St, Rapid City, SD 57701

**Members present:** Alan Anderson, Zach Burckhard, Liliias Jarding, Kelli Juhl, Pepper Massey, Bryan Mitchell, Garth Wadsworth, Lysann Zeller

**Others Present:** Karl Merbach, Jerry Wright

### **Votes Taken** (other than approval of minutes)

Paying for two members to participate in the bee-keeping conference – Moved by Kelli, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pepper, Approved

### **Call to Order – 5:31 pm**

#### **Public Comments**

- Kevin ordering nametags for new members

#### **Officers' Reports**

**Chair & Vice-Chair:** No report

**Secretary:** Minutes – Moved to approve the minutes by Alan, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bryan, approved.

**Treasurer:** No report

**Social Media Coordinator:** No report

#### **Old Business**

- Annual Report** -Lysann reported that the Annual Report presentation went well.
- Plastic Bags** – Kelli gave some background and present status of the plastic bag initiative to inform new members. It seems a little too soon after the fair to bother Cory just yet and Lysann informed the group that his email will be changing – reflected in the email list.
- Sustainability Award** – Alan submitted award application regarding the Farmer's Market for everyone to peruse. Thank you, Alan.
- Solid Waste/Recycling**- Background information given to new members
  - Kevin's letter sent.
  - Committee will continue researching about coordinator positions.
  - EPICS Landfill Paper – no report
  - Dr. Jerry Wright's presentation summary...

In 1990, the mayor of Rapid City appointed a committee of citizens and council members to review the solid waste program and a new plan was adopted in 1992. It included a composting program partnering with the water reclamation facility and construction of the Materials Recovery facility (MRF). Together it was expected that these operations would double the lifespan of the landfill. Another study was done in 2010 and the numbers indicate that the sales of compost and recyclables have consistently grown, even through unpredictable markets. Dr. Wright says that most materials have been sold if not always for the best price or in a timely fashion.

There seems to be a lot confusion about what is going on at Solid Waste. Calls and inquiries go unanswered and Karl Merbach reported that tours will no longer be given. The Sustainability Coordinator under Solid Waste has remained unfilled. Dr. Wright said this position, with its public education and outreach component, is absolutely essential to the success of the original plan. Both Dr. Wright and Karl believe some investigation is necessary and recommended that inquiries be made to the Public Works Director and Assistant Director, Dale Tech and Dan Coon respectively.

As far as the larger scope Sustainability Coordinator position goes, very little advice was given. It was Dr. Wright's opinion that the Solid Waste Sustainability Coordinator was already more than a full-time job and a high priority.

Committee members received a packet containing the introduction to the original Solid Waste plan and relevant graphs. A copy of this should be available to read on Dropbox if you did not get one.

#### **New Business**

- **Subcommittee Assignments** – Bryan and Pepper both opted for Education/Outreach and Lili is still giving it some thought.
- **Apiculture** - Bryan gave a short presentation about the Apiculture (Bees) Seminar being hosted by WDT. Alan and Zach will "bee" in attendance and we look forward to a report from them. If others are interested, the following links have more information.  
<https://www.wdt.edu/about/conferences>  
<https://www.wdt.edu/assets/docs/uploads/about/conferences/apiculture-conference-flyer.pdf>  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/644463616044001/>

#### **Informational Items –**

Meetings:, Regular 9/9, Sub-Com. 9/23

Nature: A Walking Play 8/29-9/1

Hazardous Waste Collection Event, October 12, Central States Fair Grounds, 8am- 1pm

#### **Adjournment – 6:54**

#### **Subcommittee Reports**

Given the lengthy nature of the regular meeting tonight, subcommittees did not convene. Some subcommittee activities have slowed recently as a result of the group's attention to the Solid Waste issues.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kelli Juhl

