



Meeting Minutes

September 28th, 2020 5:30 PM
In person at the outdoor plaza at City hall

Members present: Kevin Crosby, Ria Harper, Amanda Hill, Liliias Jarding, Kelli Juhl, Cathy Thrash, Garth Wadsworth, Lysann Zeller

Others Present: Bill Evans (City Liaison), Cory Ferguson, Jancie Knight, Patricia Scarborough, Callee Ackland, Molly Zuhlsdorf

Votes Taken (other than approval of minutes)

- Two votes taken on awards: Quilt Connection and Hippie Haven. See Old Business Item A.
- Urban Hens- An email vote to submit a statement to the council in favor of Urban Hens. See Old Business Item F.
- Vote to approve Amanda Hill as new Social Media Coordinator. See New Business item B.

Call to Order – 5:32 pm

Agenda Approval – New business item A. moved to immediately after Officer's reports in the interest of taking photos while we still have light.

Public Comments

- RC Youth City Council did their presentation and did a very good job!
- Hunter Lovins' book, "A Finer Future" is now in the library. I highly recommend it if you're interested in a sustainable economy.
- There is a new wind/solar energy company in the back of the Creamery building called EnergieKontor . <https://www.energiekontor.com/>. Kevin will investigate further...
- Rapid City is considering switching to a Home Rule form of government and a citizen charter committee has been formed to make a recommendation about this in the next couple of months. Might be something we want to pay attention to as it would give local government more control.
<https://rapidcityhomerule.org/>

Officers' Reports

Secretary: Garth moved to approve 9/14 minutes, 2nd from Liliias, motion carried.

Treasurer: No change

Social Media Coordinator: Zach Burckhard resigned from his position and from the board.

Old Business

New Business A. New board member certificates given to Amanda Hill, Cathy Thrash, Ria Harper and Liliias Jarding. There remain two openings available on RCSC.

A. Sustainability Awards:

i. Black Hills Farmers Market (Alan) – City Council presentation on 10/19. Cory Ferguson will accept the award on behalf of the Farmer’s Market.

ii. Quilt Connection Nomination – There was an addition to the application for Quilt Connection award nomination in that they also provide space for small group community meetings. Kevin suggested that while we appreciate what Quilt Connection is doing to advance sustainability, it doesn’t yet meet the criteria for an award at this time. He moved that we table the award for a later time and give an honorable mention on Facebook for the time being. Garth 2nd the motion and it passed. (Maybe we need a clear, written set of criteria so that future awards are not quite so subjective.)

iii. Hippie Haven, Bestowed Essentials, and Callee Ackland Nominations – Kelli moved to award Hippie Haven. Kevin 2nd and the motion carried. Awards for the other two nominations, Callee herself and her Bestowed Essentials business, will be considered at a later time as there will likely be more opportune moments down the road.

B. DENR Volkswagen Settlement Funds for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations (Garth)

i. Handout and Web-site – The handout Garth and Kevin put together has proven to be valuable and Garth has added a page with info. about available EVCS grants to the website. Bill Evans planned to bring up this topic at the Friday work session with the council and Rick Bell (DRA) has offered to consult interested parties in getting their grant applications together.

C. Rapid Creek Watershed Action (Liliias): www.rapidcreekwatershed.org – The watershed recreation area designation/mineral claims withdrawal proposal reached the City’s Legal/Finance committee and subsequently passed. It will be headed to the council on Oct. 10th for a vote. Bill Evans suggested that the resolution be submitted with many other ‘co-signers’ on it to reinforce that it has widespread support.

D. Diversity & Inclusion- We didn’t get much time for discussion on this topic, but Lillias forwarded me some ideas to pursue. **Idea 1** is to have a community feed. Spend around \$300 and have someone make soup and frybread and maybe my favorite, wojapi. Put on a big pot of coffee (I can cover that). Feeding people always brings people in. Then we can talk about the committee and what it does. Generate some interest. **Idea 2** is for representatives of the RCSC to visit organization meetings for groups that have a high rate of native membership and introduce ourselves. We would be connecting with people in leadership positions that way, too.

E. Annual Strategic Plan & Presentation to City Council – 10/19 Ongoing work

F. Rapid City & COVID-19: Local Foods & Gardening

i. Urban Hens Ordinance – The ordinance is moving forward quickly. An email vote was taken to authorize a brief statement (see below), graciously written by Patricia, with RCSC in favor of the “Urban hens” ordinance. It seems to have barely passed Legal/Finance and moved on to the full City Council.

In accordance with our mission, the Rapid City Sustainability Committee supports local food initiatives, such as an urban hen ordinance, that help Rapid City be a leader in sustainability. The ability to grow and raise a portion of the food they consume is an important consideration for any city to sustain itself for current and future generations. Allowing small-scale backyard hens, within the confines

of city ordinance, increases food security by allowing citizens to provide for themselves and their families, helps reduce the negative effects of large-scale food production and transport, and increases personal freedom which our citizens so value.

New Business

- A.** Members' Certificates of Appointment (Lysann) - See first item in Old Business
- B.** Social Media Coordinator Election - Amanda Hill volunteered to be our new Social Media coordinator. Kelli moved to elect Amanda, Kevin 2nd, motion carried.
- C.** Drive Electric Event – Saturday, October 3rd – RCSC was asked to show up for this event between 4-8. There were several volunteers planning to go.
- D.** Marketing Materials (Cathy) – Cathy researched some swag/stickers to advertise RCSC. She will get some ideas and pricing put together and we will officially vote on this at a future meeting.
- E.** Sustainability Coordinator Position – no movement on this topic tonight.
- F.** Native American Day meeting (10/12) – Yes. We will be meeting.

Subcommittee Updates (as needed)

- a. Education/Events/Outreach – Black Hills PBR (Plastic Bag Reduction)
- b. City Facilities – Solid Waste/Recycling
- c. Sustainable Development – Dark Skies

Important Events

Regular meeting October 12th by Zoom,
City Council Award & Annual Report Presentation – 10/19

Adjournment- approx. 6:45pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kelli Juhl

