



Meeting Minutes

July 26, 2021 @ 5:30 PM

In-Person Meeting – Open to the Public

Members Present : Kelli Juhl, Alan Anderson, Dave Holland, Kevin Crosby, Lysann Zeller, Patricia Scarborough, Garth Wadsworth, Tessa LaHaie, Ria Harper

Others Present : Laura Armstrong, Bill Evans

Call to Order - 5:35 pm

Votes Taken : Minutes approved - Lysann motioned first, Tessa motioned second - motion carried

Agenda Approval : Approved

Public Comments / Committee Updates : Mickelson Star Trail - International Dark Skies event! September 10th

Officers' Reports

Secretary (Ria) : Approved 7/12 minutes

Treasurer (Patricia) : We are at \$1796

Social Media (Amanda) : No updates

Old Business

- Membership Certificate Presentation -- tabled for next meeting
- Black Hills Energy Cogeneration and Small Power Production service (Solar) Tariff
 - There was a meeting that happened earlier today that included the Black Hills Energy Staff, the interveners, and a couple of members of PUC. It sounds like the buy-all/sell-all idea is likely dead. Black Hills Energy is planning on putting forward some alternative proposals for customers that have renewable energy, like possibly having a demand charge or time of use charge. A demand charge is common in commercial but not residential.
- Sustainability Coordinator Position
 - Patricia has gotten some information together and created a draft that includes a job description, why we need this position, etc
 - Earth Day Committee struggled with tasks last year and having a Sustainability Coordinator would have really helped with time management
 - Laura -- Find people in similar cities that have a Sustainability Coordinator and invite them and the mayor to lunch so that it is a lunch and learn. We can compare and see what they do in their town and then what we do/don't do here. A direct approach might be a good idea. At least we are planting the seed in his mind this year, and maybe he will be on board next year.
- Sustainability Award Nomination - EchoWorks?
 - No update
- Pollinator Garden updates?
 - Sprinklers are working again!! Yay!

- Looking to put a sign out there that labels it as a Pollinator Garden

New Business

- Solid Waste Management Facility Garden
 - Garden beds out at Solid Waste that aren't being used. They just started construction right next to it as they are redoing the scale. Think of some ideas to use?

Subcommittee Reports

- Education/Events/Outreach
 - We are going to divvy up the 'Sustainability Holidays' and create media for them to put out on social media so that it's a collective effort
 - Tessa is going to take on quarter one for creating media
 - We might take advantage of the empty beds down by the pollinator gardens to make an actual garden so that it's available for anyone that is willing to use it. It's available for the homeless and they don't have too far to go.
 - High yielding items like zucchini, peppers, potatoes
 - Using the beds out at Solid Waste and making gardens and then distributing the produce to the public -- 'food deserts', Feeding South Dakota? schools, etc
 - Getting more people involved
 - West Hills Village, etc. There are people that love to be involved and we could probably get a good number of people to help out. Some people that may be feeling lonely :(
- City Facilities
 - Sustainability Coordinator position
 - Goals to create some sort of draft where information is in one place and there are at least some talking points
 - Electrifying the city fleet
 - The transit system is not ready to electrify. There is room to try and convince the city to make small steps and electrify a couple of things
- Sustainable Development
 - Pollinator Garden is doing good!
 - League of American bicyclists
 - More bike parking structures
 - Trying to be involved with West blvd lighting

Informational Items

- Upcoming Meetings and Events:
 - Farmers Market - Every Wednesday and Saturday from 8am - 2pm
 - RCSC Regular Meeting - 8/09; Presentation on planning for the 50th Anniversary of Rapid City Flood

Adjournment - 7:35pm

Minutes submitted by Ria Harper