Meeting Minutes
January 24th, 2021 @ 5:30 PM
Zoom Meeting – Open to the Public

Members Present: Ria Harper, Alan Anderson, Patricia Scarborough, Jason Phillips, Daniel Carroll, Kelli Juhl, Ilke Celik, Garth Wadsworth, Cathy Thrash, Dave Holland
Liaisons: Laura Armstrong
Guests: Eirik Heikes, Scott Kenner, Megan Werpy
Absent Members: Kevin Crosby, Tessa LaHaie, Lysann Zeller

Call to Order - 5:40pm

Votes Taken: November 22nd Minutes Approval
Home Grown Goods will be our official first award!

Agenda Approval: Work plan update, website renewal, Bike racks, and Boy Scout Merit Badge

Public Comments / Committee Updates: DANR granted $80,000 for SD schools to source more local and fresh food. $5,000 will be available for each district that applies. The program will reimburse schools for cafeteria equipment, gardening supplies, and other items to increase the use of local foods.

Officers’ Reports
Secretary (Ria): 1/10 Minutes approved - Garth motioned, Patricia second - motion carried
Treasurer (Patricia): $42.56 is subtracted from 2022 to go to the 2021 budget bike racks
Social Media: Created an event for the RCSC meeting tonight!

Old Business
• Awards updates
  ○ There are several awards in the pool. Home Grown Goods is the application that was written up and sent out via email. The first award of 2022 will be given in April.
  ○ Maybe we can take a tour of the YFS Garden in the spring time so that we can see what sustainable work they are doing (as a possible next award).
  ○ Dan Driscoll is doing erosion protection under Star Village - Scott recommended the amazing work he has been doing to protect that.
  ○ The committee voted that Home Grown Goods will be nominated for the April Sustainability Award for 2022 by saying aye - none opposed
• No Mow May update
  ○ No updates from Melissa Petersen at Parks and Rec, Lysann tried emailing her again today
• Earth Day
  ○ Possibly partnering with WDT, we are going to have a meeting to discuss things further
  ○ There will be an email sent out with further details.
  ○ Patricia wants to help out with Earth Day planning this year!

• Dark Skies
  ○ Lysann said that they are thinking about holding the art contest off until 2023 in order to work more closely with the Dahl on this effort
  ○ Scott said that they are doing some improvements up on M Hill and are looking into Dark Skies Initiatives
  ○ Garth mentioned that it has been presented to the city a few times and the process of ordinances takes forever, so they probably haven’t forgotten about it. He’s going to get Scott the ‘makeshift’ ordinance so that if they want to comply to those rules they still can

• Member Vacancies
  ○ Bryan Mitchell has resigned. We have another vacancy! We will also have another opening in a couple months (Kevins)
  ○ Dave is the next to move up from an alternate
  ○ Bryan suggested maybe a WDT student could take his spot

• SD VW Mitigation Funds updates
  ○ Winners for the EVCS grants are going to be announced on the 26th
  ○ $29 million is being awarded to SD for charging stations

• Vision Funds status - Farmers Market Update
  ○ Requested $1.2 million to build their building and it didn’t quite make the vote for approval
  ○ Laura has been doing some awesome work talking to Parks and Rec, Feeding SD, Meals and Wheels, Tom Johnson, and more about trying to get this building built!
  ○ It needs facilities. The bathrooms at the softball field cost about $880,000. Technically, it’s a city park so if the city can build that part of the project with funding from the city, we can do some fundraising and events to come up with the rest.

• Secretary Position Volunteer
  ○ If there are any volunteers, please let Alan know!
  ○ This position includes taking notes from the meetings.

• City Hall Green Roof
  ○ This hasn’t been the first time that a green roof has been proposed for City Hall. Maybe the fourth time?
  ○ Reminder that if a city has a Sustainability Coordinator Position - we are automatically qualified for more grants to build this.
  ○ The part of the desired roof is on the east side. Next step is involving stakeholders.
  ○ They are looking at an extensive green roof which means it has potential for planting material, doing yoga, having BBQs, etc
  ○ City keeps emphasizing community. They would like to use this roof as a learning and teaching tool. They can use the city’s compost that they create for soil.
  ○ Jason feels that this is going in a good direction!

• CAMP update
  ○ Kristen has been contacting some students at SDSM&T to initiate a Capstone Project
There is going to be a group of students working on redesigning the Solid Waste’s remote yard waste sites

- Meeting at the Ascent Center - no updates
- Sustainability Coordinator Position
  - Eirik mentioned that the RCSC committee has been working on this for YEARS. It might be a good idea to reach out to previous members, they could bring some good support to this since we are ‘getting closer’.
  - We need to be persistent!
- Working more closely with the city on recycling and composting - no updates
- Youth City Council update
  - Laura reached out to the YCC to see if the Environmental Committee would like to send a liaison to our meetings - No response yet
- *Pollinator Garden
  - No updates
- *BottleHub - no updates
- 2022 Work Plan
  - We need to start working on this - maybe the next meeting can just be breakout sessions and we can really dig down and get the work plans going
  - Please review 1/24 agenda to make sure that your name is under the correct subcommittee
- Website Renewal
  - Approximately $200
  - This is due for renewal in February
- Bike Racks
  - There hasn’t been any time to go down and pay the rest of the shipping yet, but hopefully this week. We need to design some sort of grant application process in order to give these away in May
- Boy Scout Merit Badge
  - Lysann needs some help doing this - if there are any volunteers please reach out!
- Dr. Ilke’s Research - Energy for Sustainability
  - Hasn’t been officially funded yet - but soon!
  - Wanted to find out good ways to recycle solar panels
  - Ohio makes the solar panels and they will recycle them here
  - This project will be finding out what materials they need to repurpose these solar panels to ensure that they are reducing, reusing, and recycling

Informational Items
- Upcoming Meetings and Events
  - Feb 14th - Next RCSC Regular Meeting, 5:30pm via Zoom
  - Feb 7th - City Council Meeting, 6:30pm
  - Farmers Market - Winter Hours - Every Saturday 9am - 12am

Adjournment - 7:00pm

Minutes submitted by Ria Harper