Meeting Minutes  
June 13th, 2022 @ 5:30 PM  
Zoom Meeting – Open to the Public

Members Present: Lysann Zeller, Patricia Scarborough, Dave Holland  
Liaisons:  
Guests:  

Call to Order - 5:40pm

Votes Taken: no quorum

Agenda Review and Approval: No action

General Public Comments: Patricia says the Pollinator Garden at City Hall looks great!

Officers’ Reports
  
Secretary (Ria): No quorum to approve minutes  
Treasurer (Patricia): ~$1,233 still remains after the most recent reimbursements; Lysann also spent about $100 on Pollinator supplies  
Social Media (Ria / Cathy): less activity lately after all the great Earth Day content, Lysann created Pollinator Week event; shared pictures and posted about the WDT tour

Old Business

• Sustainability Coordinator Position  
  o New Subcommittee consists of: Alan, Ria, Bill, Laura, Dave, and Patricia.  
  o Dave wonders if all files related to this are in the Dropbox - found a folder with lots of documents - presumably the work of past members  
  o Patricia will check those files and check with Kevin Crosby for his notes on past meetings and conversations that already happened with other cities’ sustainability coordinators/efforts  
  o Lysann will contact Bill and Laura to narrow in on their availability, and as a group we will try to get a July meeting scheduled.

• City Hall - No update  
• Youth City Council - No update  
• Member Vacancies - No update  
• Trail Challenge  
  o Approx 100 people participated - twice last year.  
  o Lysann collected the signs and extra pins. A couple signs will need to be remade next year.

• Pollinator Advocacy  
  o Next week is Pollinator Week, kickoff at the Farmers Market on June 18th - come down to celebrate with us! There will be wildflower seeds, a bee observation box
(if it’s not too hot for the bees!), etc
  - Lysann and Patricia planted new plants in the city hall pollinator garden on 5/25, Lysann just added more this week. It’s looking great - the rain has helped!
  - Thanks to Dave H. for coordinating, and Lysann for planting, there are two new beds of pollinator garden at Wilson Park by the gazebo.
  - Parks and Rec implemented “no mow May” in some park areas, with very few complaints!
- Bike Rack Giveaway
  - no updates
- Award Updates
  - Patricia completed a nomination for Sonny Rivers of Black Hills Solar
  - Dave suggested more information, such as numbers of installations, kW of solar installed, years in business, etc. Patricia will modify the nomination form and resend this week
  - It will be on the agenda for next meeting to vote on, if we have a quorum
  - The target would be to award it during the 7/18 City Council meeting
- WDT Sustainable Food Production System Project funding request
  - Lysann said the city has no problem with us supporting this project
  - Per her discussion with Bryan Mitchell, the trip is at the end of July; we can donate anytime before or after the trip; the fund can go to the foundation directly, it would not have to support the students directly for this trip
  - Patricia is happy to support it, but feels that we still need some feedback from Bryan on how it benefits the city; still interested in hearing from him how we can get reinvestment within our community
  - We could also wait until closer to the end of the year and contribute with remaining funds.

New Business
- Sustainability International Visitor Leadership Program, Friday, 6/10/22
  - Lysann was able to attend, it was a great tour and meeting with Central and South American sustainability ambassadors showing the sustainability efforts at WDT - primarily hydroponics, and EchoWorks; Bryan Mitchell gave the tour along with Tamie Hopp
  - Most of the visitors needed a translator, so discussion was a bit challenging, and there was no time for the forum that was expected.
  - Dave commented that this really would have been a great opportunity for Rapid City to show off it’s stuff. We’re all wondering how this got set up? What is the connection to these countries? What else did the visitors see while they were in Rapid? How can we help Rapid City show itself off better for this type of opportunity?
- Skyline Wilderness Area
  - Dave said there will be a Public Forum regarding the Skyline Wilderness Area on July 19th, at 6:30 pm at Wilson school gym (Dave needs to confirm location).
  - We should have a presence at the meeting. Lysann also helped Dave brainstorm other groups/committees/orgs that he could pull in to the discussion
- Elections/Attendance
  - elections were supposed to occur at this meeting, but only 3 in attendance
  - Some discussion of amending the bylaws to push elections to August, or at least a vote to keep officers as is
  - This led to discussion about attendance and how to keep engagement up:
Do we need to reorganize the subcommittees, especially with the new Sustainability Coordinator subcommittee forming?

How can we utilize each member’s expertise and interests to engage members so that they get something out of each meeting?

- Discussion shifted to a reminder that conversations and meetings directly with city staff are key to making change happen. Bee City USA, and subsequent pollinator gardens, “No Mow May” action all stemmed from a conversation with city staff.
- Patricia will consider subcommittees and a modified agenda format for next meeting, will coordinate with Lysann.

Informational Items

- Upcoming Meetings and Events
  - June 27th – Sustainability Committee Meeting in person at City Hall
  - Farmers Market – Every Saturday at 8 AM – 2 PM. 245 E. Omaha St. Rapid City

Adjournment - 7:00 pm

Minutes submitted by Patricia Scarborough