Meeting Minutes
August 8th, 2022 @ 5:30 PM
Zoom Meeting – Open to the Public

Members Present: Ria Hannon, Lysann Zeller, Alan Anderson, Jason Phillips, Kelli Juhl, Patricia Scarborough, Scott Kenner, David Holland
Liaisons:
Guests: Olivia Boerger
Absent Members: Ilke Celik, Tessa LaHaie, Daniel Carroll, Garth Wadsworth, Cathy Thrash

Call to Order - 5:34pm

Votes Taken: Minutes approved from 7/25 meeting
Election of officers for 2022/2023 approved

Agenda Approval: Addition of elections

Public Comments:
- Someone recognized Alan at the Farmers Market and came up and said that our social media presence is awesome!

Officers’ Reports
Secretary (Ria): Motion to approve the minutes from last meeting (7/25) made by Lysann, seconded by Patricia - motion carried.
Treasurer (Patricia): $1129.84 remaining balance
Ria shared an idea to maybe partner with Echoworks to sponsor a free drop off event for electronics. Lysann also suggested donating to the RC Parks & Rec Dept. to buy a tree (or maybe two) since there have been some kids chopping down trees in some of the local parks recently.
Social Media (Ria / Cathy):
Farmers Market week is coming up and we will be sharing the details of that on our social media.
We have had A LOT of new followers recently! We are currently at 743 followers on Instagram and 956 on Facebook.

Old Business
- Award update - Black Hills Solar
  - Patricia has written a press release and is going to submit it to Darrell.
  - We are going to present the award on August 15th at the City Council meeting - put it in your calendars!
- Sustainability Coordinator (SC) Position Sub-Committee
  - Alan submitted to the Mayor’s Office to see if we could present at the City Council Meeting on August 15th. Calli then responded that the Mayor would like
Alan and the committee to just present to him directly. Details to come. The presentation needs finished in the meantime.

- Dave and Lysann had a meeting with Kristen Hasse in Public Works last Friday.
  - Pat Roseland and Laura Armstrong were also there.
  - Kristen offered the idea of a meeting with the division heads of Public Works and other departments to talk about what having a SC would mean to them and to identify some sustainability priorities for the city.
  - For example, one of Public Works' greatest struggles right now is developer-led, unchecked growth and Kristen sees this as an area that needs improvement to make the city more sustainable.
  - For the department head meeting, we could make a list of different things relating to sustainability and pertaining to their area of expertise, and they could check boxes for what is important to them and what is not. This would help us identify priorities.
  - We need to create an end result that we can give to people, like a strategic plan with bigger picture items, not so much the details and who this person might be. Kristen suggested possibly working with Leah Braun in the Mayor's Office on this.
  - Giving a presentation at this time might be premature. We might need to do some more convincing on the ground before we climb the ladder. Let's check in with all stakeholders.
  - Kristen suggested to put the SC position either under Public Works or Community Planning so that the division manager can buffer the politics.
  - The subcommittee sent in a list of questions to the city, hoping that the answers will help get them some data and information. Kristen said some of the plans that Dave asked for are being worked on so we might need to ask for them at a later date when they are completed.

- Member Vacancies - Alan
  - Alan is going to meet with the new applicants soon.

- F3 Exploratory Mining FONSI City Council Resolution
  - So far in the last couple of weeks, the RCSC has attended the Legal and Finance meeting and the City Council meeting and submitted public comments opposing this operation.
  - The Rapid City Journal mentioned RCSC in two articles for their comments.
  - As part of the Forest Service’s environmental assessment, there were 264 comments submitted and all but a few were directed to opposing the mining in that area.
  - The City Council voted and passed a resolution against exploratory drilling and future mining at Jenny Gulch.
  - Thank you to everyone that showed up and commented!!
  - The exploratory drilling is just the beginning and more action will be needed in the future to protect our watershed. Some possibilities include a federal designation of the watershed as a recreation area with a mineral claims withdrawal and a source water protection plan.
  - Alan talked about Rapid Creek Watershed Action and their mission. We will plan to work with them and Clean Water Alliance on this in the future.

- Work Plan update
  - City Facilities has updated and completed their section.
  - Sustainable Development is almost done!
  - Education and Outreach is almost done as well! It’s a busy week for subcommittee members so when time allows, it will be submitted.
Kelli mentioned possibly using some of our funds to create a piece of art or sculpture in Rapid City to honor our past award winners - for example, buy a brick program. It would be a great visual for everyone to see that it takes a community to accomplish things.

Maybe planting trees in a Sustainability Forest? Everyone that has received an award could say ‘This is my tree!’

New Business

● Elections
  o Per the amended bylaws, elections were held following a discussion of what committee members would be willing to serve as officers for the next year. Alan is agreeable to being Chair for another year, Ria and Patricia also volunteered to retain their respective positions, and Cathy emailed earlier to say she is willing to officially be Social Media Coordinator. There were no immediate volunteers for Vice Chair.
  o Lysann stressed the need to also fill the Vice Chair position at this time in order to have a succession plan for leadership for when Alan is no longer Chair. Scott Kenner then volunteered and said he is agreeable to possibly serving as Chair next year.
  o Motion made by Lysann to approve the following slate of officers for 2022/2023:
    ▪ Chair - Alan Anderson
    ▪ Vice Chair - Scott Kenner
    ▪ Secretary - Ria Hannon
    ▪ Treasurer - Patricia Scarborough
    ▪ Social Media Coordinator - Cathy Thrash
  o The motion was seconded by Kelli and approved by all - motion carried.

● Discussion of Rapid Creek Watershed Organization and Mission
  o This item was discussed above as part of F3 Exploratory Mining FONSI City Council Resolution.
  o Lysann mentioned Rapid Creek Watershed Action/Clean Water Alliance is holding a 5k fundraiser on Saturday, August 27th at Old Storybook Island.

Informational Items

Upcoming Meetings and Events
  ● August 15th - City Council Meeting at 6:30pm
    o Black Hills Solar Sustainability Award Presentation
  ● August 22nd - Sustainability Committee Meeting (In Person)
  ● August 27th - Clean Water Alliance 5k Run/Walk at 9am (Old Storybook Island)
  ● Farmers Market - Every Saturday and Wednesday from 8am - 2pm
    o 245 E Omaha St, Rapid City

Adjournment - 7:35pm

Minutes submitted by Ria Hannon