

**Environmental Commission
Meeting Minutes
March 6, 2013**

In Attendance:

Dave Colteryahn, chair
Greg LoBuono, vice-chair
Veronica Craig, recording secretary
Becky Montag
Mitch Rhodus
Bob Breen, Parks Board Liaison
Ben Strickler, Parks and Recreation Representative
Bob Schappacher, Parks and Recreation Representative
Tom Nault, guest

Absent: Brian DeRoo, Boyd Miller, Mike Lane and Chuck Ullrich

Meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by chairperson Dave Colteryahn.

Guest Tom Nault introduced himself. He and his wife have recently joined our community. Tom would like to explore the function of the EC, with the possibility of applying for one of the empty positions. The members welcomed him and encouraged further involvement.

Minutes: The minutes for the February meeting were approved with no corrections.

Standing Business

Correspondence/Articles: Veronica shared two articles. The first discussed Ohio's record holding "Big Trees" and the second recycling food waste.

EC Activity Hours: Dave/1, Greg/1, Becky/.5, Veronica/2.

Adopt-a-Roadway: Dave will contact Brian to set up the next Muskopf Road clean-up. If Brian is not available, Dave will have his son help him.

Parks Board Report

Because Bob B. was unable to attend the last meeting, Bob S. made the report:

The City has applied for a grant to develop the Black Bottom property. The State would fund 75% of the money, and the City of Fairfield would be responsible for the other 25%.

Fees and charges for the various facilities (parks, Marsh Lake, the Aquatic center, etc.) were discussed and voted on. Most will remain the same as last year.

Parks Department Report

Website Update: Bob included last month's statistics in the EC meeting packet. 23 people visited the website during that period.

Friends of Fairfield Forest Nominations: Bob asked that EC members consider possible nominees for these annual awards – one to a business and one to an individual. Two candidates will be chosen at next month's meeting, and the award will be presented at the Volunteer Recognition Dinner on April 25.

Ash Grant Update: Planting the 33 replacement trees along Woodridge Blvd. will be done in the next couple of weeks. The weather has not been cooperative.

Huffman Park Event: This community-wide event will be held at the recently dedicated Huffman Park on Saturday, April 20, 2013 from 10 am to 2 pm. Many activities are planned, with an emphasis on Earth Day. The schedule for the day's events will appear in the upcoming *Flyer*.

A parent of a Fairfield student has contacted Ben about planting a "Birthday Tree" at the new park. This dovetails nicely with the EC's request for a tree to be planted at the event in honor of Arbor Day. Ben will give the family tree options from the designated species list for the park and will handle all the details for this special gift.

The newsletter goes out the first week in April and will include a schedule of the day's events.

Commissioner Reports

Fairfield Home Expo Booth: The booth application has been submitted. EC members discussed booth location and decided to opt once again for the tent space. Seedling distribution can be rather messy, but last year's rain made the whole day cold and soggy. Members are hoping for better weather for this Expo.

Members chose time slots to work the Expo, which runs from 9 am to 3 pm – three people (Dave, Greg and Becky) in the morning and two (Veronica and Mitch) in the afternoon.

Other Business

Term limits and reapplication for seats on the EC were discussed. Becky has reapplied. There are two additional vacancies.

Calendar:

Parks Board Meeting –March 12, 2013 at 5:30 pm, CAC

EC Meeting –April 3, 2013 at 6:00 pm, CAC

Fairfield Flyer newsletter is mailed out – 1st week in April

Fairfield Home Improvement Expo – Saturday, April 13, 2013 from 9 am to 3 pm, CAC

Tree City USA Awards Luncheon – Friday, April 19th, 2013 in Greenhills

Huffman Park Earth Day Event – April 20, 2013 from 10 am to 2 pm, Huffman Park

Volunteer Recognition Dinner – Thursday, April 25, 5:00 pm, CAC

Village Green Fine Art Fair – Saturday, June 22, 2013

Adjournment: at 6:47 pm.