

**Environmental Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
November 2, 2011**

**In Attendance:**

Liz Hunter, chair  
Greg LoBuono, co-vice chair  
Dave Colteryahn  
Veronica Craig  
Mike Lane  
Greg Sunday, co-vice chair  
Ben Strickler, Parks and Recreation Representative  
Bob Breen, Parks Board Liaison

Meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by chairperson Liz Hunter.

**Minutes:** Meeting minutes for October 5, 2011 were approved without any corrections.

**Standing Business**

**Correspondence and Articles:** Dave recently attended the Midwest Roofers Convention and shared a copy of the new “Green Code” which will go into effect in Arizona in March. This piece of legislation mandates that at least 50% of the material from a demolition site must be recycled. Municipalities will have the option of increasing that percentage to make their communities even more “green.” A discussion about this new code followed, with concerns voiced about the economic ramifications and the feasibility of marketing the salvaged materials.

Veronica shared an article spotlighting the Huffman family’s donation of 20 acres of property on John Gray Road to the City of Fairfield.

**EC Activity Hours:** Greg L/2.5, Dave/2, Mike/1, Greg S/2, Liz/.5, Veronica/3.

**Adopt-a-Roadway:** Greg LoBuono, Greg Sunday and Veronica did the clean-up on October 17. Boyd will be doing the November/December clean-up, and other members offered to help.

**Parks Board Report**

Bob reported that two ordinances were passed at the last meeting. The first vote was the acceptance of the Huffman family’s property donation. The second ordinance to be approved allows the City of Cincinnati to run a sewer line from their River Road Water Plant across property belonging to the City of Fairfield. In return, Fairfield will be able to tap into the new sewer line when it develops the Black Bottom land. It will be a win/win situation.

**Parks Department Report**

**Website Update:** Ben included the stats for last month in this meeting packet. Viewership was down considerably, most likely because the EC hasn’t enhanced the site for quite a while. Ben suggested the Commission take a look and add new items.

**Tree Lottery:** Ben got the information out to the nurseries (Lakeview and Meyers). He will be sending out vouchers to the winners. They will have until May, 2012 to redeem them for a tree.

**Huffman Property:** Habitat for Humanity will go through the house and salvage materials for its store, which sells reclaimed building materials.

**Miscellaneous:** Liz asked Ben about cuts to the Parks and Recreation budget. Ben explained that all departments were asked to reduce spending by 5% and he cited the example of the brush chipping program, which will no longer chip limbs, etc. each month. Instead, debris will be accepted and placed in a holding area. The actual chipping will only be done once a year, except after the holidays when Christmas trees will be chipped. Ben reminded the EC that residents may help themselves to the chipped wood.

Dave asked whether the dead spruce trees planted this year along Winton Road have been replaced. Ben said that, although this has not been done yet, it should be done soon.

### **Commission Reports**

**Birdhouse Workshop:** Veronica asked that the EC skip this coming March workshop, as she will likely be out of town early next spring. She hopes that taking a year off will improve the next session's attendance in March of 2013.

**Street Tree Inventory:** With the leaves off the trees, this project will have to wait until next summer or fall. The EC tabled discussion of the inventory until spring of 2012.

**Crab Apple Trees:** Dave is still pursuing disease-resistant crab apple trees, and will report back to the EC when he finds a source.

### **Other Business**

**Ordinance Review:** Ben handed out copies of the two top EAB links Dave had suggested. The EC felt that the newest information available seems a bit more optimistic. Systemic insecticides and pheromone traps were discussed. Figures indicate that treatments have been between 50 to 90% effective in destroying the EAB. Dave is trying to find unused traps that could be gotten at a reduced rate or perhaps free of charge.

Bob pointed out the EC should inform the City that there have been changes in protocol, and that the EC will be submitting suggestions for additions and deletions to the current EAB management plan.

Ben said that he will ask the Parks staff to look at the possibility of using pheromone traps to gauge the level of EAB presence. Then, perhaps, the use of beneficial species to help control the pest could be explored. More discussion on this issue will follow at the next EC meeting.

**Next Environmental Commission Meeting:** The EC will not meet in December. The next meeting will be on January 4, 2012.

#### **Calendar:**

Parks Board Meeting – November 8, 2011 at 5:30 pm, CAC

EC Meeting – Wednesday, January 4, 2012 at 6:00 pm, CAC

**Adjournment:** at 6:59 pm.