



Minutes

ROLLING MEADOWS ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE MEETING 03/07/2023 at 6:30 p.m. at the City Hall EOC

1. **Call to Order:**
2. **Roll Call:**
 - a. Ald. Lara Sanoica, Karen Gill, Pete Jackson, Joan Thomas, Maggie Trevor, Michael Koehler, Raymond Mau , Aaron Grosskopf, Jo Ellen Charlton, Ryan Rivard, Fred Vogt, Graham Strebler, Glen Cole, and Alyse Dahlgren.
3. **Approval of Minutes from February 7, 2023.**
 - a. 1st by Dr. Michael Koehler, 2nd by Pete Jackson
4. **New Business**
 - a. Willow Bend Arbor Day Celebration- Joan Thomas
 - i. Joan Thomas- Earth club was able to raise \$3,000 for trees. We were able to host a ceremony. Rolling Meadows Public Works came out and dug the holes. We were able to plant 5 trees on the school grounds. We would like to have a ceremony and plant 4-5 more trees this year.
 - b. Willow Bend Plastic Bag Ban - Joan Thomas
 - i. Joan Thomas- My second graders are learning how to make a difference within our communities. The students decided they were going to write letters to ban plastic bags within Rolling Meadows. They have ideas on creating a ban or charging a tax per plastic bag.
 - ii. Pete Jackson- I would like to see the committee consider this, or do research on this topic. Also, I would like to have conversation at next meeting about the Styrofoam. (make a motion)
 1. Karen Second

- iii. Aaron Groskopf - I have a meeting with Manager Sabo this Friday and will discuss the Styrofoam issue with SWANCC.
- iv. Alderman Sanoica- We will take a look at this item that Joan has brought forward. We can also have a breakout committee about subjects such as these as we have time constraints with meeting for one hour each month. I would propose to this committee to have a breakout session before next meeting. I propose if we meet on Monday April 10th as a second meeting
- v. Joan- Wat if we all looked at the information for plastics on our own time. Then come back to discuss.

5. Old Business

- a. Prairie Burn- Pete Jackson
 - i. Pete Jackson- The burn will be on March 26th. If anyone wants to help they are more than welcome.
- b. Sue Walton Recognition of Service – Graham Strebler
 - i. Graham Strebler- Park District is assisting with the sign and we are purchasing the bench.
- c. Earth Day Rain Garden- Pete Jackson and Graham Strebler
 - i. Graham- Pete and I talked about a month ago about planting material. But we are not going to exceed \$600 for planting that can be taken from operations funds from public works or funding from the Environmental Committee.
 - ii. Pete Jackson- we talked about planting grasses and sedges and some grass seed. If we can invite Kailey for the April event. I would like to make a motion to fund up to 600 for the planting
 - 1. Roll Call- All approved (each member)
- d. Kennedy Pond- Ryan Rivard/ Ryan Lindeman
 - i. Ryan Rivard- Read responses from CBBEL about Kennedy Pond.
 - ii. Graham Strebler- We are meeting with our contractors and looking into muck digesters, and aeration to assist.
- e. Tree Preservation Ordinance- Graham Strebler

- i. Graham Strebler- We have been developing a tree ordinance with the City. We have a standing ordinance to cover trees on public property to cover City owned property. We are looking to update the vegetation ordinance. We are creating a new section of the code to protect trees on private property. The properties that this will affect. Most residential will be exempt for lots less than 20,000 sqft with exception with remove a tree that total in 55 inches or more. A permit would be required. For properties that are larger, commercial, all tree removal will require permits as they are not exempt. We will define protected trees within this ordinance. We do not require a tree survey currently; this ordinance will ensure that this is required in the development process with the development. This will open the dialogue with the developers. This will help formalize the development process.
 - ii. Fred Vogt- There should be an appeal process.
 - iii. Graham Strebler- There is a 4-person appeal process, so it is standardized.
 - iv. Mao- Shouldn't tree of paradise and Norway maples be added to the protected species?
 - v. Alyse- Isn't Tree of paradise an invasive species.
 - vi. Graham- If tree of paradise is not on that list, I apologize at it should have been and I will add it.
 - vii. Cole- This does not apply to companies such as ComEd with their tree trimming across the City.
 - viii. Alderman Sanoica- Can we move forward with the Tree Preservation Ordinance as presented.
 - ix. Dr. Michael Koehler- Motion to table this until the next meeting to review the proposed ordinance.
 - 1. Second by Joan Thomas
 - 2. All in favor
- f. Chicago Bears and Impacts- Alderman Lara Sanoica
- i. We will discuss at a future meeting.
- g. Sustainability Plan- Alderman Lara Sanoica and Dr. Michael Koehler

- i. Sanoica- We have discussed with city staff and will be coming back to the committee soon.

6. Upcoming Events

- a. Prairie Burn- 3/26/2023

7. Upcoming Meeting Dates

- a. April 11, 2022 is the Next Scheduled Monthly Meeting. (due to conflicts on the first week).
- b. Alderman Sanoica- Thoughts on moving the time to 6pm instead of 6:30 to allow for additional time for the meeting. Can we have a vote to change the scheduled meeting times.
 - i. All in favor.

8. Adjournment

- a. 1st by Maggie Trevor, 2nd by Dr. Michael Kohler.