



Minutes

ROLLING MEADOWS ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE MEETING 04/5/2022 at 6:30p.m. Virtually Meeting

Official Members: Ald. Lara Sanoica, Karen Gill, Pete Jackson, Joan Thomas, Maggie Trevor, Dr. Michael Koehler
Other in Attendance: Rob Horne, Graham Strebler, Ryan Rivard, Alysse Dahlgren, and Fred Vogt

The Mayor of the City of Rolling Meadows has determined that an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent at this time due to the pending disaster related to the COVID-19 pandemic. In a measure to protect the safety of the residents, staff and officers of our City, the City will hold this meeting electronically via the following:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/98256352490?pwd=WGdyd3lvazU4ODlxamNYaDFzM3Fzdz09>

Meeting ID: 982 5635 2490

Passcode: 037911

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
 - a. Alderman Lara Sanoica, Karen Gill, Pete Jackson, Joan Thomas, Maggie Trevor, Dr. Michael Koehler, Rob Director Horne, Graham Strebler, Ryan Rivard, Alysse Dahlgren, and Fred Vogt.
3. Approval of Minutes from March 1, 2022.
 - a. 1st by Karen Gill, Second by Maggie Trevor
 - i. All in favor
4. New Business
 - a. Addition: Changes in personal
 - i. Director Rob Horne- I will be stepping down from the role of Director of Public Works Effective April 19, 2022. It has been a pleasure working with you all for the last few years. Thank you all for your hard work and dedication to the committee and the City of Rolling Meadows.
 1. All- thank you Rob for all of your help through the years.
 - ii. Ryan Rivard- I received an email from Sue Walton with her resignation from this committee effective immediately. She will be missed and we will not forget all of her hard work and efforts to the City of Rolling Meadows.
 1. Alderman Lara Sanoica- There now is a position open on the committee. If anyone is interested please send an email to the mayor

with your interest and references for wanting to serve on the committee.

2. Fred Vogt- I think we should put together a proclamation for Sue in the coming months for all of her hard work. She deserves recognition for being one of the charter members.
- iii. Ryan Rivard- Lastly, I wanted to let everyone know that I have accepted the position of Utilities Supervisor here in Rolling Meadows. I will still be part of the committee to help during the transition.

b. T-Shirts

- i. Joan Thomas- I don't have a lot, but I was thinking if we wanted to create a t-shirt for our group to give us recognition. We could approach the High School to help create a logo and shirt for us. I am not sure if we have the green light to look in this direction. Is this something that we as a committee are interested in? I would like to make a motion to reach out to the high school and look into creating a logo and t-shirts for the environmental committee.

1. 1st by Pete Jackson, Second by Maggie Trevor.

a. All in favor.

2. Alderman Lara Sanoica- Thank you again Joan for taking the lead on this.

c. Emily's Prairie Vandalism

- i. Pete Jackson- I wanted to make the committee aware, and maybe we can come up with some ideas. 1st someone has been plant poaching on the east end of the prairie. 2nd there has been graffiti on the signs and within the area. I tried to get it off, but I might be able to get something stronger to get the graffiti off. 3rd people are cutting through the prairie and trampling the plants. If we add mulch it will help the path and limit the trampling of the plants. I will keep everyone posted about these issues.

- ii. Ryan Rivard- Pete, let me know if there is graffiti on the signs, we do have some solvents that can get some of this remediated. I just need to know as I do not make it down that way often.

- iii. Graham Strebler- I will check the area this week.

5. Old Business

- a. Willow Bend Tree Planting Fundraiser for April 29th Planting- Joan Thomas

- i. Joan Thomas- The kids did an amazing job fundraising. I was really floored. They raised over \$2,800! Thank you to Dr. Michael Koehler for your generous

donation as well. The principal is comfortable in planting 5 trees at the school this year. We will save money for future tree plantings. We will have money for a few years of planting. We could also use the money for a butterfly garden, or other sustainable projects and plantings for the school. As of right now, everything is set for 10 AM on April 29th. The earth club and the entire second grade will be present for the event. The kids will have some speeches, poems, singing, and jokes, and then divide into 5 different groups for each tree. All together we are around 125 students. I would love it if any or all of the committee could attend, please let me know.

- ii. Ryan Rivard- That is amazing news. I am waiting for our City Manager to get back to me about the Mayor if he can attend the event.
 - iii. Dr. Michael Koehler- We can calculate some environmental numbers on how much carbon the tree will pull out of the environment, and how much water it will take to lessen drainage issues. As well as energy savings. I think this is important to let the kids know. If you can get me the information for the size and species of plants I can get that information together for Arbor Day.
 - iv. Graham Strebler- Currently we will have a burr oak, hackberry, triumph elm, and catalpas. I can send you information on these trees offline.
 - v. Joan Thomas- The kids really would like a willow tree to be planted. Once plans are firmed up I will send everyone an email on specifics for the event.
- b. Earth Day 4/23/22 Collaboration
- i. Ryan Rivard- For the April 23, 2022 event we will need a person to host a table to discuss what our group is and what we do, with any flyers.
 - 1. Fred Vogt – I would be happy to man the table at this event.
 - ii. Ryan Rivard- Is there anyone interested in speaking at the event?
 - 1. Fred Vogt- I would be happy to explain what the group is and what it is about.
 - 2. Alysse Dahlgren- I would be happy to help as well.
 - iii. Karen Gill- For the table do we have any flier or anything we need for the table?
 - iv. Ryan Rivard- We may have some items such as coal tar and a few other fliers.
 - v. Alderman Lara Sanoica- Please send Ryan any information or fliers so he can print them and have them ready for the table.
 - vi. Ryan Rivard- The event will officially start at 10 AM at Kimball Hill and move to Emily's Prairie. Please bring with you closed-toed shoes, water, and work gloves.

This will be a rain or shine event. PW will supply the other materials for cleanup, planting, and buckthorn removal. We will be completed by noon.

- vii. Pete Jackson-Will there be an outreach for this event to have volunteers to help in the area? Also since there is issues with people walking through the prairie we could add wood chips to make a path for the community.
 - viii. Ryan Rivard- Yes, we have put out that we need 10 or so volunteers plus the group at the event. That will work we can discuss it further.
 - ix. Graham Strebler- We can get you the wood chips just let us know how much.
 - x. Dr. Michael Koehler- Can Ryan or Pete please send out information on where to meet and what we need for the event.
 - xi. Ryan Rivard- I will get that information out to the group.
 - xii. Alderman Lara Sanoica- Thank you for everyone's help with this project. We look forward to seeing you all on April 23rd at either Kimball Hill Park or at the Prairie.
- c. Emily's Prairie Burn Recap
- i. The burn assisted with burning the ground vegetation. The conditions were not prime, but we got done 90% of what we were looking to accomplish with the burn. I am looking to expand in the future to burn vegetation north of Central. With there being plans to replace the bridge on Central Road in the future we should continue focusing our efforts on the prairie. My permits are good for one year if we wanted to do more later in the year.
- d. Sustainability Plan
- i. Alderman Lara Sanoica- Both Dr. Koehler and I are looking to meet with the City Manager Rob Sabo. We will plan to meet with him within the next month or two to go over our plans for the sustainability plan. We look forward to reporting back on this with the group once we meet with him.
- e. Coal Tar- Ryan Rivard
- i. Ryan Rivard- This might go a little slower with all the changes occurring here at Public Works. I did give a call to all the businesses and contractors within RM with the help of the business advocate to see if they sell, advertise, or use any coal tar products. I will be meeting with City Staff and the Attorney to go through the logistics before we go to present again to the Council.
- f. September 9, 2022- Duck Race/ Friday Rocks
- i. Rain Date for the event is 10/1/2022 at Hometown Hoedown.
 - ii. Fred Vogt- Just an update, I got ahold of the vendor who has created the tickets the last few years. The company is moving currently but they are willing to help

and have them printed no later than May 1. The printer could not find the proof from last year with all the changes we needed to make. They do have the 2019 ticket proof.

- iii. Karen Gill- I will go through my emails to see if I have the proof from 2021, if I do I will send them to you.

6. Outreach

- a. News Letter/ Social Media
 - i. Ryan Rivard- We will put something out about coal tar closer to the council meeting in which we present. Also, if anyone has anything to send me that they would like added to the website please let me know.

7. Upcoming Events

- a. April 23, 2022 – Earth Day/ Park District Cleanup Collaboration
- b. April 29, 2022 – Arbor Day Planting @ Kimball Hill

8. Review Meeting Dates and Upcoming Meeting Agenda Topics

- a. May 3, 2021- 6:30 PM– Zoom Meeting (The State of IL is still under a State of Emergency, once it is lifted we will be meeting in person, this could result in a change for next month's meeting, please be advised).

9. Adjournment

- a. 1st Maggie Trevor, 2nd Dr. Michael Koehler
 - i. All in favor