Wednesday, March 27, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.
Mahany/Meininger Senior/Community Center
(3500 Marias Avenue, Royal Oak)


Public: Michael Keith, Mary Kendell, Brian Lattulippe, Liana Peitsch, David Sloan, Arhil Tatineni, Katie Tenniswood

**MINUTES:**

1. **Approval of February 2019 Minutes** – S. Douglas

2. **Greg Rassel Report** – Yard Waste Collection has started for the 2019 season. SOCCRA Compost Pick Up location is Starr Road and Coolidge (where it was last year).
   - Julie Lyons-Bricker – Wrote a grant to National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. GSI for Normandy Oaks – bioswales, detention basin to help with parking lot that is being added. National Fish and Wildlife Foundation met on Tuesday, March 26, 2019 on site. Grant application process advanced to the next level. Should know by early June if Royal Oak awarded grant.
   - Second Grant: US Green Building Counsel – LEED for Cities. Grant is for a membership in USGBC estimated to be worth 25k dollars. Membership would include: expert tech assistance in greenhouse gas, energy, and water tracking (use ARC software). Get an overall score which can be used to compare Royal Oak to other cities. Able to get the Royal Oak Mayor, local business owner, and Royal Oak Schools Superintendent to send letters of support.
   - April 1, 2019 – DNR grant application to pave the trail behind community center.

3. **City Commissioner Report – Shar Douglas:**
   - Division 3 baseball at memorial park - team wants to invest 330k dollars to expand dug out, put in artificial field, and pay rental fee to the city.
   - Normandy Oaks – Construction starts in April 2019. Royal Oak received 1 million dollar grant from Oakland County Parks and Rec to pay for amenities in park (paths, trails).
Recruiting people to work in city government 2.5% salary increase for Royal Oak City Employees and the city will pay more of employees’ health care costs. City is trying to build employee satisfaction and keep employees.

ROOTS Foundation – Royal Oak Civic Foundation (501-C3) established. Bring in fundraising groups to bring in money for groups like library, animal shelter, nature society, etc.

4. Public Comment:
   - Mary Kendell – Has AP Government assignment to attend city board meeting and interview a person.
   - Michael Keith – owner of Office Coffee Shop, Royal Oak
   - Brian Latulippe – owner of Gray Tree Design
   - David Sloan – cut plastic ring around milk container before dispose of. Suggested ROEAB create campaign for less plastics.

5. Earth Day Update:
   - Library closed for the weekend
   - Plants for Ecology – Brendan Nolan – sells native plants
   - Royal Oak Nature Society – will contact – Chris
   - SEMCOG- Shar will contact
   - DTE – table about residential rebates – J. Lyons-Bricker will contact
   - Time Bank – interested – no money (swap services) gently used items – reduce, reuse, recycle. - C. Hartwig invited group and they will be present for Earth Day event

   - Earth Day event will be promoted on social media; eblast to send to DTE person with details for vendors. Email flyer to Office Coffee. Vendors arrive between 8 to 9. Bring own chairs. Farmers Market will provide tables, shelter, electricity and wifi.

   - Confirm times for working event 8-11: K. Pierson, C. Hartwig, K. Long, A. Herzog, A. McMahon
   - Confirm times: 11 to 1 – P. Lemme, S. Douglas, W. Gontina, and A. Herzog

6. Sustainability Plan Citizen Task Force – Julie Lyons-Bricker:
   - Citizen Task Force – ROEAB
   - Big Picture of Sustainability: What is it? Sustainability means satisfying our present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs (Bruntland Report 1987). Additional definitions discussed. J. Lyons -Bricker provided handout that featured sustainability definitions, guiding goals of sustainability, best practices, benefits for addressing sustainability in Royal Oak.

   - Phase 1 – smaller portion of the sustainability plan. Take on topics that city staff could take on in house. Inventory of what the city has going on and/or already accomplished.

   - ROEAB – (citizen task force component) - set goals and baselines with ability of city staff.
Discussed pillars of sustainability plans and specific examples:

Example Water: Water – fill stations in city buildings – create a Royal Oak City Bottle that people could use – refillable. Inventory of buildings already have. Have the city eliminate bottled water purchases. Lead by example. How to measure successes? Example, Reduce Waste (metric easier to track for purchasing).

Discussion on eliminating bottled water at Arts Beats and Eats and/or city sponsored events – not work due to fundraisers, no drinking fountains.

Julie Lyons- Bricker- Buildings biggest opportunity to reduce energy. J. Lyons Bricker provided a second handout to ROEAB members which had components of sustainability plan listed with possible indicators and initiatives listed.

Discussion of ROEAB goal for current meeting.

Woody: Ferndale Sustainability Plan – very organized, easy to read. Start with framework and set goals would be next discussion.

Julie: Think about big picture. What should be first picks for the main categories under sustainability. Citizen Task Force: having more representation: hospitals or educators. Who should be in advisory group?

Overall discussion: Google Doc – 2 weeks make changes April 10, 2019. Starting with environment because has measurable metrics. Focus on environment not social or economic. Avondale, AZ Timeline: Need to start plan by June 2019. J. Lyons- Bricker will get information out to ROEAB members and then plan a citizen task force with others.


Getting Group together: story boarding take longer than 1.5 hours need to set another date to discuss.

Next meeting re: sustainability plan early May 2019 –meet 6 to 9pm (TBD).

P. Lemme suggestions: community coming together and policy changing statement/”Goals” S. Douglas: suggested 10 policy statements that the city would be committed to and start to drive budget too.

7. Important Dates:
   - March 28th, 7:00pm, Residential Rain Gardens, Mahany/Meininger Senior Center
   - April 17th, 7:00pm, Recycling Demystified, Royal Oak Public Library
   - April 20th, 9:00am, Earth Day Event, Royal Oak Farmers Market
   - June 1st, 9:00am, Electronic and Scrap Metal Drive, Royal Oak Department of Public Service

Motion to adjourn at 8:43pm - K. Pierson, W. Gontina second.
Next Meeting: April 24, 2019 – discuss the city of Royal Oak’s Sustainability Plan