Wednesday, April 24, 2019 at 7:00pm
Mahany/Meininger Senior/Community Center (3500 Marias)

Members Present: Jennifer Acevedo, Shar Douglas, Woody Gontina, Amanda Herzog, Ken Long, Julie Lyons-Bricker, Amanda McMahon, Tracy Purrenhage, Greg Rassel,

Members Absent: Chris Hartwig, Pam Lemme, Kevin Pierson

Public: Melissa Bobowski and Edna Lorenz

MINUTES

1. Approval of Minutes – Woody Gontina and second by Ken Long

2. Greg Rassel Report - Recycling tour occurred at Materials Recovery Facility (MRF). Would like to host more tours at MRF but there are safety concerns for tours. At the Southfield facility (RRRASOC) restrict age and number of people on tour. Facility allows a max of 30 people that are in 4th grade or older. A. Herzog interested in scheduling a tour at SOCCRA. W. Gontina asked if it would be valuable to see without facility in operation? T. Purrenhage said it would be valuable to see the facility, even if not in operation, because facility has videos that they show during the tour. The videos show streamlined recycling. G. Rassel said a good day to schedule tour would be when other city boards could attend tour too. Southfield facility (RRRASOC) did an open house on Earth Day.

3. City Commissioner Report: S. Douglas – City of Royal Oak - Age friendly task force conducting focus group to learn what older people want or people want as they age. Metro Times voted Royal Oak – Best Downtown

4. Recent Activities:
   • March 28 - Residential Rain Gardens Presentation – Large turnout (standing room only)
   • April 17 - Recycling Demystified – 18 people attended
   • April 20 - Earth Day @ Royal Oak Farmer’s Market. 23 rain barrels sold, 30 people did the raffle.
     o Recommendations for future Earth Day events – M. Bobowski suggested inviting Bees in the D; Invite DTE.
     o S. Douglas suggested checking out the Rochester Earth Day event to get additional ideas and recruit vendors. Other suggestions from the group included: bringing in recycling truck, recycling relay, recycling unlimited, inviting Beaumont, Detroit Zoo, and Irene’s Message etc. Another suggestion was to provide Yard Waste Stickers for people, incorporate farmers market vendors – maybe host a raffle to highlight vendors at the Farmer’s Market.
5. Updates and discussion:
   • Sustainability – J. Lyons-Bricker
     o 2019 LEED for Cities Grant - Royal Oak awarded one of the 14 spots (Las Vegas and Baltimore also awarded spots). Press Relief coming. The fact that Royal Oak awarded grant has put the sustainability plan on hold because the LEED grant is time sensitive. Grant will allow City of Royal Oak to track energy, waste, etc. on Arc software. Grant will also provide for 2 people to go to Washington DC in June 2019 to learn software. Will be a LEED city. Mentor will help the city get certified. LEED for cities grant lasts about 1.5 years. After 1.5 years the city of Royal Oak could explore renewing LEED for Cities membership.

   • Recycling in Parks: W. Gontina – interested in recycling in parks; maybe looking for a grant to fund recycling program. G. Rassel stated that VFW park and Star Jaycee offer recycling bins. Recycling program being piloted in downtown Royal Oak. Pilot program will encompass one block in downtown Royal Oak. City is interested in how program could work and the contamination levels of the recycling. W. Gontuna asked group if ROEAB could do some educational rollout for new recycling program. Major parks get emptied 2 a week or once a week. Serviced by DPW. Infrastructure grant has been extended to May 1, 2019. High volume projects and access to people that may not have recycling.

   • RO 100 Year Anniversary 2021 – Kevin Pierson. City Boards are doing planning big events to celebrate. ROEAB's example might be planting 100 trees. ROEAB tasked with thinking about ideas for board to celebrate 100-year anniversary of Royal Oak.

   • Library Presentations – Would like to schedule presentations/speakers.
     Speaking ideas:
     a. DTE (residential rebate) the utilities would be happy to present. Include a panel of people that have implemented solar power.
     b. All 4 presentations on climate change
     c. Line 5 – Shut down line 5
     d. Jim Nash – talk about water and Water Resource Commission
     e. Monarch Garden presentation
     f. Seed library – Royal Oak Library

6. Important Dates:
   April 25, 10:30 am, Arbor Day
   April 27, Park Clean Up – 35 groups participating
   June 1: 9am, Electronic and Scrap Metal Drive

Motion to adjourn at 7:54pm K. Long, A. Hertzog second.

Next meeting: May 22, 2019