



Minutes

Royal Oak Environmental Advisory Board

May 22, 2024, 7:00 p.m.
Royal Oak Farmers Market
316 East Eleven Mile Road
Royal Oak, MI 48067

Present: Woody Gontina
Tessa Benziger
John Bosack
Zoe Chase
Frank Komola
Julie Lyons Bricker
Paul Vial

Absent: Amanda Herzog
Nicholas Marcelletti
Ed Slesak

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Frank Komola
Seconded by: Julie Lyons Bricker

The Royal Oak Royal Environmental Advisory Board approves the agenda for the May 22, 2024 meeting as published.

Motion Adopted

3. Approval of Minutes

Moved by: Zoe Chase
Seconded by: Paul Vial

The Royal Oak Environmental Advisory Board approves the minutes of its April 24, 2024 meeting.

Motion Adopted

4. Public Comment

Chuck - SMART advertising the new bus route to connect several cities line 492. New route connects people on east side of city to transit center which can get to a fast bus to Detroit. He explained a little more information about what is accessible on the line.

5. Director of Public Services and Recreation Report

Woody Gontina shared the update in the packet on the community garden, and the Fred A. Erb Arboretum Grant on behalf of Mr. Filipski.

6. Sustainability Manager Report

Angela Fox shared an updates on her work.

7. City Commissioner Report

Woody Gontina shared an update on behalf of Commissioner Herzog related to allowing student members to vote.

8. New Business

Discussion of summer meetings - could we have meetings in June? July meeting will be discussed in June.

Moved by: Frank Komola

Seconded by: Zoe Chase

Motion to have a meeting on June 26, 2024 at 7 pm at a location to be determined.

Motion Adopted

9. Old Business

9.a Continuation of Bylaw Discussion

The group discussed potential changes to the ordinance and bylaws. In particular the possibility of changing the number of members, allowing students to vote as members of the board.

Julie found the old bylaws from 1990 and would like to review those for consideration.

Overall discussion will be brought up again next month.

The group had a discussion about supporting that student members have the ability to vote as regular members of the board. The group did not have any general opposition to moving this forward but wanted to see specific language.

10. Subcommittee/Program Updates

10.a Discussion of Subcommittees

Mr. Komola is interested in exploring small working groups, in particular one that would exploring a ban on plastic bags and to see how we could encourage more people to use re-usable bags.

10.b Social Media Subcommittee Update

June is home efficiency month, so focusing on that topic.

Would like to post reminder to attend an EAB meeting.

Recruiting for new board members was brought up and the group can post to assist in recruiting.

10.c Community Gardens

Tom Reagan resigned from the board, and we need someone else to step into that role that he was working on to bring more community gardens.

11. General Announcements

Solarize meeting at the end of June.

Behind the drywall tour still coming forward.

Legislative update at the June meeting.

Woody was able to present on renewable energy in the schools

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15.

Moved by: John Bosack

Seconded by: Julie Lyons Bricker

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion Adopted