

**Environmental Commission
Meeting Minutes
April 4, 2012**

In Attendance:

Greg LoBuono, co-vice chair
Dave Colteryahn
Veronica Craig
Ben Strickler, Parks and Recreation Representative
Bob Breen, Parks Board Liaison

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by co-vice chair Greg LoBuono.

Minutes: March 7, 2012 meeting minutes were reviewed, but approval was tabled due to an insufficient number of EC members for a quorum.

Standing Business

Correspondence and Articles: Veronica shared an article "Taking Trash to the Bank," describing Cincinnati's recycling efforts. Bob suggested the EC invite Ann Fieher-Flaig to a meeting to discuss how to encourage more recycling. Many cities are providing larger containers.

EC Activity Hours: Greg L/1.5, Dave/4, Mike, 2.5, Veronica/1.5

Adopt-a-Roadway: Mike Lane's daughters will handle the May/June clean-up to earn community service hours for school.

Parks Board Report

Bob reported there was a light agenda at the last meeting. Brad Williams discussed updating the process of CAPRA accreditations and standards for employees.

The Board had asked for suggestions for offsetting budget costs, and an e-mail received suggested that the community pay to use Harbin Park. The Board is looking at the suggestions that have been submitted.

Parks Department Report

Website Update: Although the actual number of pages viewed was down from February to March (286/200), the number of visits was up from 20 to 23.

Dave hopes that information found in the newsletter will spark community interest and result in increased website visits for additional, more in-depth knowledge on EC issues.

Miscellaneous: Ben announced that Izaak Walton's annual tree planting will be held May 2. More information will follow.

Commissioner Reports

Home Improvement Expo: This year's expo will be held on Saturday, April 14. The EC will be holding their annual seedling giveaway. The year 150 red bud and 150 tupelo starts will be distributed. Members chose time slots to cover the booth.

Village Green Arts Fair Booth: The event will take place on Saturday, June 16. Veronica will organize the EC's annual activity for the children. She requested coloring books and the ever-popular EAB tattoos to give away.

Other Business

Friends of Fairfield's Forest Award: The Commission chose former member Steve Welte as this year's individual recipient. Ben and Jim Bell will discuss the choice for the corporate winner. The awards will be presented at the Volunteer Recognition Dinner.

EAB Management Plan Review: Dave asked if there were sufficient EAB brochures to hand out at the upcoming Expo. Additionally, he is planning a video for that event to help answer residents' questions about pests that are threatening our community's trees.

2011 Review/Annual Report: A copy of the revisions was included in this month's meeting packet. Ben will add the newly chosen Forest Award winners. The EC reviewed Ben's changes, and this revised report will be forwarded to the Parks Board. An EC member will attend to explain and to answer any questions.

2012 Goals: The EC agreed that this discussion should be tabled until there is once again a "full crew" of members.

Arbor Day: Monday, April 23 the Mayor will present a plaque honoring Fairfield's efforts as a Tree City. Details will follow.

Calendar:

Parks Board Meeting – April 10, 2012 at 5:30 pm, CAC

Home Improvement Expo – Saturday, April 14, 2012 from 9 am to 3 pm, CAC

Tree City Luncheon – Friday, April 20, 2012 in Amberley Village

Arbor Day Presentation – Monday, April 23, details to follow

Volunteer Recognition Dinner – Thursday, April 26 at 5:00 pm, CAC

Izaak Walton Tree Planting – Wednesday, May 2, 2012. Details TBA

EC Meeting – Wednesday, May 2 at 6:00 pm, CAC

Miami River Clean Up -- TBA

Adjournment: at 7:23 pm.