

**Environmental Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
March 5, 2014**

**In Attendance:**

Dave Colteryahn, chair  
Greg LoBuono, vice-chair  
Veronica Craig, recording secretary  
Becky Montag  
Tom Nault  
Chuck Ullrich  
Bob Schappacher, Parks and Recreation Representative

**Absent:** Brian DeRoo, Rodney Spencer

Meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by chairperson Dave Colteryahn.

**Minutes:** The minutes for the January 8<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved with no corrections.

**Standing Business**

**Correspondence/Articles:** Tom shared an *Enquirer* article explaining that bugs can survive the cold snaps we've experienced this winter. Veronica had information about a new Cincinnati development that is using a lagoon-type approach to waste water treatment.

**EC Activity Hours:** Dave/3, Greg/2.5, Chuck/1, Tom/1, Veronica/2.5.

**Adopt-A-Roadway:** The cold and snow made the January/February clean-up impossible. Therefore, Greg will join forces with Becky for March/April. The rest of the schedule is as follows: May/June – Veronica; July/August – Tom; September/October – Dave.

**Parks Board Report**

The Youth Football League gave their annual report, and it was well received.

The Board has appropriated \$29K for the Eppley Institute of Indiana University to compile a 10 Year Master Plan assessing the needs of our community. It has been twelve years since a comprehensive study was done. This fact finding mission will include meetings, interviews and careful scrutiny of our Park's programs and facilities. A final report will help the Board develop new programs to meet the needs and wants of residents into the next decade. Both the Aquatic Center and the CAC are products of past master plans.

**Parks Department Report**

**Website Update:** January's and February's stats are included in this month's meeting packet.

**Seedling Giveaway:** To celebrate Arbor Day, the EC will hold their annual seedling giveaway at the Home Expo on April 5<sup>th</sup>. This year there will be 100 more seedlings available to residents. After a brief discussion, members decided to order 300 redbuds and 100 tulip poplars.

**Tree City USA:** Fairfield has qualified for both the Tree City and the Growth Award this year. Ben's participation in the Tree Academy Program earned the bulk of the point requirement. This will be the 19<sup>th</sup> year in a row for the Tree City Award, and the 6<sup>th</sup> time to receive the Growth Award, which is much more difficult to earn. Congratulations to all.

**Tree City Luncheon:** Tipp City, north of Dayton, will be hosting this year's luncheon and awards ceremony on Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup>. Fairfield's attendees will ride in the city van. Three EC members have signed up for the event, with another two as yet undecided.

**Friends of Fairfield Forest Award:** All members agreed that Jim Montague of Lakeview Garden Center, nominated by Dave, is the perfect recipient for this honor. Without his expertise and dedication to our community, the Honor Grove would have not become a reality. The EC is very grateful that Jim shared his vision for this special park. His humor and enthusiasm were contagious. The EC will write a 200 word dedication at next month's meeting, to be read at the annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner in April.

**New Member Status:** Three current members – Chuck, Greg and Dave – have each signed on for another term. Due to resignations, there are still unfilled seats on the EC. However, the feeling is that members would prefer seven, rather than nine, total seats. This reduction would have to be approved by City Council.

**Miscellaneous:** Bob asked if anyone had a conflict with next month's meeting, as it coincides with Spring Break. All members were fine with the usual first Wednesday of the month, April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Miscellaneous:** Bob has asked Fairfield's Park Naturalist Sara Brewer to attend the next EC meeting and give a brief presentation about this season's programs offered at Huffman Park. She will address the EC soon after the meeting is called to order.

### **Commissioner Reports**

**Living Legacy Tree Program:** Bob will have tri-fold brochures available for distribution at the Home Expo. EC members are hoping to generate interest in this special addition to our parks system. Honor Grove information will also appear in the upcoming newsletter.

**Home Expo:** This year's Expo will be held on Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at the CAC from 9 am to 3 pm. Members requested individual badges, as there was a shortage last year. Three members will work the morning shift, and three in the afternoon. Bob requested that the entire EC be at the booth at noon for a group photo commemorating our Tree City status and the seedling giveaway.

#### **Calendar:**

Parks Board Meeting – March 18, 2014 at 6:00 pm, CAC

EC Meeting – April 2, 2014 at 6:00 pm, CAC

Fairfield Home Improvement Expo – Saturday, April 5, 2014, CAC, 9 am to 3 pm

Tree City Luncheon – Friday, April 11, 2014 at Tipp City

**Adjournment:** at 7:16 pm