

Environmental Board Minutes, October 12, 2016

Meeting called to order at 7:03pm

Members Present: Vice-Chair Martha Dahlinger, William Beck, David Mayfield, Jerry Kroehn, Mike Sergeant, Deirdre Nieves, Kathy Fiebig, David Solberg, David Mayfield, Secretary Tim Winslow, Jamie Harmon, Assistant City Engineer

Excused Members: Student representative Tanvi Khurmi

New Members

Martha does a quick introduction of the board and asks the new members to introduce themselves and also our older members.

David Solberg, certified Arborist, Natural Resources Management degree from GVSU and is currently the forester at Consumers Energy.

Mike Sergeant, veteran member, Zoology degree from Michigan State, knows his aquatic insects very well. Working on getting his PhD in Invasive Biology.

Jessica, Mike's niece, is also here and wants to be an entomologist in the future.

Tim Winslow, undergrad at Michigan, law degree from Vermont Law School.

Jerry, former chemical engineer at Upjohn. Has a lot of interests in hunting, fishing, gardening, etc.

Kathy Fiebig, landscape specialist with Kalsec. She manages their flowerbeds, turf areas, ponds, etc for them. She is also a master gardener with the Kalamazoo group.

Martha Dahlinger, our most veteran member. Degree from MSU, raised on an organic farm. They used to have the largest turkey farm in the state at one-time. Her grandfather was a commercial fisherman in the Gulf of Mexico. She also has a very nice yard filled with lots of native plants.

Deirdre Nieves is a teacher of Anthropology at WMU. She has a Bachelor's Degree in environmental studies from WMU. She studied carnivorous plants in the Cheboygan area and the climate effects on these plants. She also has five children and four grandchildren and just recently purchased a home in Portage, Michigan.

Jamie Harmon, Assistant City Engineer with the City of Portage. She attends most of our meetings on Christopher Barnes' behalf usually.

William Beck, retired pharmacist from Upjohn. He was the Director of Training & Development from the Animal Health Division and has interests in helping the Environmental Board further our goals.

Elections

Martha discusses delaying the elections for a month or so to allow our new members to orient ourselves.

Tim makes a motion to delay the elections a month until next month. Seconded by David Solberg. Motion passes.

Minutes

Mike makes a motion to approve the minutes as amended. David seconds. Motion passes.

SWOT

Martha and Jerry came up with some new threats and how they affected the City of Portage. Bill categorized these under the eight existing categories that he came up with when categorizing our threats. The point of doing this is to help us further our goals in working with the City of Portage in protecting the environment.

Tonight's task we are scoring the threats and then determining the impact of these threats for the City of Portage. Whether the impacts are short-term or long-term and many other factors will affect the scoring of these threats.

The Environmental Board went through the exercise and scored the threats accordingly. Bill is going to meet with Larry on Friday to discuss these results. Martha and Tim will also attend this meeting.

Announcements

Mike and Martha are going to attend the BCK CISMA meeting on Wednesday, November 2nd, 2016 at 6:30pm at the Kalamazoo Nature Center.

We'll keep deer on the agenda for now.

David makes a motion to adjourn, seconded by Tim. Motion passes.

Meeting adjourned at 9:11pm.

/s/ Tim Winslow