

Minutes

Environmental Advisory Board

16 March 2016

Ogden Dunes Town Hall

The Environmental Board met on 16 March 2016 at 5:30 pm at Town Hall. Attendees were, Susan MiHalo, Kristine Sandrick, John Morris, and Sue Adams. Doug Cannon sat in.

Sue A. moved to accept the minutes of the last meeting of the Environmental Board, for 17 February 2016. Kristine seconded. The motion carried.

The logic model that Susan M. drew up for recycling outreach and education was presented. The discussion revolved around what resources would be needed, and what funds would be obtained from the community fund. A more concise list of what can and/or cannot be recycled is needed. There was great confusion over the differences between the information supplied by Jim Metros of Republic Services and Doug Cannon, who had interviewed the folks at Homewood. Sue A. wanted to provide wastebasket-sized bins for recycling to be placed near the kitchen trash basket. A sticker or other label could be attached to indicate items that should be recycled. Grocery bag totes with a logo for the town of Ogden Dunes was proposed to discourage use of plastic shopping bags. These items would likely not be available for distribution at the Memorial Day picnic, but the ODEAB should have a table at that event to address recycling. Kristine said she would have something for Earth Day. Getting Community Fund money would not be possible before June. Another proposal was to design a brochure, possibly with a tear-off sheet to serve the function of reference for what can be recycled, to be kept on the refrigerator or other convenient place. To increase the likelihood that the brochure is actually read, a professional graphic designer could be employed. The brochure could be placed in the water bill before National Recycling Week in November.

Regarding the MS4 exemption, Jim was not available. There was nothing new.

The Septic System Coordination Work Group meeting last month likely was postponed due to bad weather. Jim was planning to attend.

The beach contract has been sent to the state. Susan M. had a question about field blanks. John said that we did not supply a distilled water blank in a whirl-pak. This may be an issue with the contract. Susan will contact Bob Theodorou to find how he is handling it.

For the Dark Skies Initiative, Sue A. said that Kathy Kniola told her the Town Council was aware of the Dark Skies issue. She and Kristine are still working on the inventory of street lights, and also working with Jim Matthys. One proposal was to do a demonstration near the entrance, but to do all of the lights near Town Hall would be about \$1300, as there are 9 lights. It still would be best to get others besides ODEAB members involved. Another idea was to have an adopt-a-light program whereby an interested resident could supply funds for one or two lights near them.

Sue M. alerted the board about the Save the Dunes meeting at our firehouse on 18 April. It concerns the Indiana coastal invasive plant network, and will present a reporting system using eddmaps.org to report on positive and negative findings. Of particular concern is black swallow wort, which is in the milkweed family, but is toxic to monarch butterfly larvae. Babies breath is another concern, as it comes in some wildflower seed packets. There are 17 very bad invasive species we should be monitoring for.

John moved to adjourn, and Kristine seconded. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Submitted by John Morris.