

## **Detroit Green Task Force Meeting Minutes**

May 26, 2011

-Minutes-

Meeting was called to order at 3:07 p.m. by Kenneth V. Cockrel, Jr., in the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor.

Introductions – Meeting attendees introduced themselves.

### **Water Subcommittee Update – Roshani Dantas**

- Water Agenda – what are work & policies
  - Draft of Water Agenda – done by end of June – early July
  - Waiting for update on Downspout Agenda

### **Youth Subcommittee Update – Raymond Pitts, Evergreen Academy**

- Working on Green Economy Youth Summit for October 2011
- Have kids exploring Green Economy
- Over the summer the kids will work on the above issues

### **Green Building Subcommittee Kathleen Underwood, Joel Heeres**

- Municipal
  - Green Building Policies – looking at other cities to see if they are effective
  - Looking at the pros & cons of LEED/ASHRAE
  - Working with Clean Energy Coalition & Next Energy
- Residential
  - Working on Residential Green Building Policy
  - Looking at residential sector
  - How do we create & fund a program
  - Incentives to landlords
  - Empowering renters
  - Connect renters and landlords with programs
  - Looking for funding
  - Green Healthy Home labeling program
  - We need to make utility disclosures available

### **Climate Justice& Emergency preparedness to Heat Stress Workgroup – Dr. Jalonne White-Newsome**

- Impacts from climate change
- Seniors 65 and over & dialysis patients are most susceptible to heat climate change
- Education and outreach this summer
  - DVD to be made for seniors regarding food and heat for this summer

- Detroit Job Core will produce this DVS
- Summer Events
  - Senior Friendship Day & Senior Olympics

**Non-Motorized Task Force – Roshani Dantas, Greenways Coalition – Todd Scott**

- 2012 – 6 projects for safety
- Connor Creek Greenway partial opening
- MDOT will fund another portion
- Corktown green link will have bike lanes in July

**Anti-Idling - Ahmina Maxey**

- Working with Detroit policy on anti-idling ordinance
- No vehicle can idle for more than 5 minutes
- March 2010 ordinance passed
- Will look at other cities to see what they have done

**Urban Agriculture Policy – Kathryn Underwood**

- Working on Michigan Right to Farm
- What urban agriculture looks like
- Agriculture and economic development and food system
- Honey, Eggs & Cheese = Bees, Chickens & Goats, info mid to late summer
- Issues with garden permit – do's & don'ts
- June 6-7, Lansing, Designing Healthy Livable Communities
- Too early to say if Gov. Snyder is ok with urban agriculture
- The Mayor of Detroit is open to looking at proposals for urban agriculture
- Food production in kitchen
- Tilapia Farms
- Mayor is supporting projects

**Kayak Ordinance – Roshani Dantas**

- Kayaking off of Belle Isle – currently you need a permit
- Concerns are who is in the water – therefore permits are needed
- Other cities do not require permits
- Meeting with the Recreation Department and Law Department to discuss this issue
- What does the rest of Michigan do?
- Looking at Windsor, Boston, New York and Chicago
- Major concerns – impractical, you need a permit every time you want to go on the water

### **Rain Garden Project – West Grand Blvd. Collaborative – Deborah Dorsey**

- 2004 started volunteer organization for residents, businesses and churches
- This organizations mission is to make a safe, beautiful and valuable community
- Working on getting street lights back on, more police, maintaining vacant properties
- Accessing what the strengths and weaknesses of the neighborhoods are
- LTU had a Greenway Conference with the group WGBC
- Doing a demo project at the Detroit Public Library
  - Outdoor reading garden
  - The library was kept open in 1076 to set guidelines for the future
  - Beautification projects
  - Want to reduce blight
  - Low impact design, native plants, rain garden, rain barrels, low maintenance turf, low costs
  - Want to introduce students to environmental conservancy and environmental issues
  - On June 18<sup>th</sup> art was placed in the garden
  - Funders for project: Kresge Foundation, Sierra Club, Fresh Water Future, Henry Ford Hospital, and private donations

### **Green Explosion Youth Group – Michelle Jackson & Youth**

- The group has 37 members, ages range from 6-17 years old
- The kids work on getting the word out on: home energy savings, geothermal, recycling, the environment and saving energy
- They have been working for the last year on energy efficiency
- Older children are learning weatherization
- In their community whole blocks are empty
- Second Saturday of June Rally, need donations. 17142 Rowe Street, off of 6 mile and Hoover, Our Lady of Good Council Church 10:00 a.m. 313-645-0376 for more information
- The Beaver is their mascot, because the Beaver uses everything that he gets
- Trip to DC for July has been pushed back to August

## **Announcements**

- **June 4<sup>th</sup>**, Rouge Rescue Event,
- **June 8<sup>th</sup>**, Warm Training Center Awards Breakfast, ***Ken Cockrell and Margaret Weber Award Recipients***
- **June 11<sup>th</sup>**, Green Explosion Youth Group Rally
- **June 13<sup>th</sup>**, Recovery Park Community Meeting
- Better Buildings for Michigan, for more info call 866-402-1061

The next Green Task Force Meeting is scheduled for June 23, 2011, from 3:00p.m. – 5:00p.m. at the Coleman A. Young Center, Committee of the Whole 13<sup>th</sup> Floor. Date is subject to change and all will be advised if a change is made.