

Detroit Green Task Force Meeting Minutes

March 22, 2012

-Minutes-

Meeting was called to order at 3:35 p.m. by Kenneth V. Cockrel, Jr., in the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center, 13th floor.

Introductions – Meeting attendees introduced themselves.

SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

Water Subcommittee – Melissa Damaschke

- Meeting on Monday, 4/16/20, 1-3 p.m. Water Shed Plan, DEQ will be at this meeting
- Finishing draft of Detroit Water Agenda

Youth Subcommittee & Green Jobs/Green Businesses

- Meeting with youth representative for sub committee
 - Location for youth event summit – Detroit Center?
 - Fall now, not in spring

OTHER UPDATES

Urban Agriculture – Kathryn Underwood, City Planning Commission

- Michigan Right to Farm Act GAMPS – farmers that voluntarily follow the action are protected
- We need to control how farming happens
- Cities with a population over a certain amount may not have to go by the GAMPS
- We still are not comfortable that the city is protected by the Michigan right to Farm Act
- We are working to finish the ordinance
- 2012 applications are now available for the Garden Adopt-a-Lot
- Top soil, rain barrels, compost, all now available with permit at the community access center
- Hoop houses serve as green houses, only in commercial and industrial, soft plastic, no fans or mechanical equipment. Not as permanent as a green house
- How is composting regulated? Guidelines, standards and laws of state need to be adhered to
- Aqua culture in industrial areas approved
- 100 employees are ready to start the tilapia farm
- Farm will be on the west side of the city, on 9.5 acres of land

Non-Motorized Plan

- 60.48 miles of bike lanes are now in the city
- New miles of bike lane are to be added this year
- Over the next 2 weeks new areas will be looked at for more bike lanes
- Looking at more bike racks at the Coleman A. Young building
- DDOT looking to put bike rack in at Larnard

Recycling

DPW Pilot Project – Ron Brundige, DPW

- The DPW project is no longer a pilot project
- Westside of the city: 11,000 are recycling – every other Monday pickup, automated system
- In Rosedale 40-50% range of participation
- Brightmoor 20% participation
- DPW is working on neighborhood education and outreach
- Eastside, manual system, 25-30% participation
- Spring / Fall Northwest area to be set up for curbside recycling
- Project areas were chosen because they were different socio economic levels

Zero Waste Detroit – Margaret Weber

- Violation notices will change – making them easier to understand. This will be easier for participants
- Grass to Gas Bill – take action now
- Zero Waste – looking for teams to keep daily incident records

PRESENTATIONS

Green Fleet Initiatives – Kelly Jezierski, Next Energy

- Next Energy – Green Fleet Projects
- 2 million in grant funding for Green Fleet Initiatives
- Green purchase – city wide re-treaded tires, save 30-50%
- Auction off old vehicles (look at fuel data) – 1 million by June
- Will be doing life cycle cost analysis
- Aggregated fleet costs
- APU's for police – APU will power radios, heaters, etc... without the engine running
- City to receive 1.5 million for this project
- APU's have a 5year life span
- Michigan Clean Diesel Initiative
- Grant from MDEQ for this project is \$200,000
- DPW received a \$320,000 Green Fleet Grant from the Clean Energy Coalition for 8 medium duty diesel hydraulic hybrid trucks

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- WARM Training Center – programs for small businesses and non-profits – grants/loans
- Detroit Bike City: Bicycle Show & Swap Meet – takes place Saturday, March 24, from 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. at Detroit’s Cobo Hall
- Sierra Club and Maxi Container Rain Barrel Workshop, Saturday, April 14, 2012, Rivard Plaza, 1340 East Atwater Street

The Green Task Force Meeting scheduled for April 26, 2012 has been CANCELLED. The next meeting will be held on May 24, 2012.