

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

**July 26, 2012**

### **-Minutes-**

Meeting was called to order at 3:23 p.m. by Kenneth V. Cockrel, Jr. in the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center, 13<sup>th</sup> floor.

**Introductions** – Meeting attendees introduced themselves.

### **OTHER UPDATES**

#### **Complete Streets - Laura Buhl, City Planning Commission**

- Complete Streets accommodates all users
- The city received a grant for Complete Streets a few years ago
- Final draft of the Complete Streets Ordinance was submitted last fall
- July 10<sup>th</sup> meeting with Chris Brown – DPW will review language

#### **Status of Kayak Ordinance – Anita Twardesky, Riverside Kayak**

- Resolution to Kayak Ordinance – meeting – resolution to submit
- Resolution would be to no longer have an ordinance so that you can kayak without a permit
- Certain launching sites have a fee, so if you went to launch at one of those sites you would still have to pay that fee

#### **Update on Clean Air Cities Resolution – Councilmember Cockrel**

- The city chose to draft a resolution

### **PRESENTATIONS**

#### **Michigan Freshwater Future – Jill Ryan**

- Helps communities protect their water resources
  - Great Lakes
    - Provide drinking water
    - 1.5 billion dollars in boating
    - 2 trillion in economy
- 2 offices in Michigan
  - We give grants and consultations
  - 33 grants, one for 87,000 in Detroit
- climate work
  - Onondaga Creek Conservation Council
    - Trying to give shade back

- Clearing and cleaning
  - Planting program
    - Reduces flooding
    - Rain gardens
  - W. Grand Boulevard Collaborative
    - Put in rain garden at public library
- Tool kit available soon – How to Consider Climate in Your Neighborhood
- For more info contact Jill Ryan, 231-348-8200, [jill@freshwaterfuture.org](mailto:jill@freshwaterfuture.org)
- You can also view Climate RFP @ [www.freshwaterfuture.org/grants](http://www.freshwaterfuture.org/grants)
- Fall Climate workshop coming up! More info to follow
- Workshops for rain gardens? See the Sierra Club for info on rain barrels, rain capturing fences, etc...

### **Metro Food Plus Innovation Cluster at Detroit – Drs. Rick Foster & Chris Peterson, MSU**

- Thriving in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century – The Global Food Platform & Michigan's Future
- 21 Century is a new era – reliance is on a diverse economy
- Food, water and energy
- Green Economy
  - Urban Agriculture
  - Alternate Energy
  - Fresh Water
  - Green Building Science
  - Innovation and Job Creation
  - National Resources
- Major Challenges in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century
  - Urban Convergence
  - Food
  - Water
  - Energy
- 2050 Global Scenario
  - Double food production
  - Must use less water & energy
- Michigan cites have hidden assets
- Will farming grow up?
- Metro Food Plus Innovation
  - Multi stake holders coalition
  - To establish a sustainable food system in Detroit
  - Community based food systems
  - Blight and abandonment – repurpose
  - Looking to possibly grow vertically in Detroit

- How does rain water and composting fit into this plan?
- Keep food waste out of landfills – food which creates methane

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Zoo Walk, July 29<sup>th</sup>
- Sierra Club Bike Tours – Green Water Features, July 29<sup>th</sup>, 10am-1pm
- Detroit Agriculture Network 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Garden Tour, August 1<sup>st</sup>, bus and bike tours, starts at Eastern Market, for more info [www.detroitagriculture.net](http://www.detroitagriculture.net)
- Friends of Rouge, August 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Water Sub Committee Meeting, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, at the Shar Academy, 1851 W. Grand Boulevard, 1-3pm
- Belle Isle – New Fish, Saturday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, 10:00am zoo area
- Wayne County added Bike lanes on E. Outer Drive
- Earn a Bike Program – 24 kids learn to repair bikes and get to keep a bike. Will have neighborhood bike workshops where the kids will repair bikes. For more info contact Gail Walters 313-288-9450
- 1,000 signatures from the city to support a rewards program for businesses and residents. For more info contact Melissa Damashke 313-965-0055
- NO August Green Task Force Meeting

The Green Task Force Meeting for August has been cancelled. The next meeting will be held on September 27, 2012.