

Kings Contrivance Environmental Committee
<http://kingscontrivancecommunityassociation.org/node/18>

Meeting Minutes
May 12 7:30 P.M - 9:00 P.M.
Amherst House

Attendees:

Committee Members

Alan Pflugrad
Hillary Bierce
Richard Briggs
Nicky Worth

KC Staff

Dawn Linthicum
Beverley Myers

Guests

Danielle Bodner (CA)
Janet Lemanski

Material/Handouts

- Agenda for May 12, 2016 (hard copy)
- Meeting Minutes from March 10, 2016 – see online and bring a hard copy if you want one

<http://www.kingscontrivancecommunityassociation.org/pdf/Events/KC%20Environment%20Committee%20Meeting%20Notes%20Mar%202016.pdf>

Meeting Notes:

1. Introduction and Welcome (5-10)
 - Self-introductions
 - Visitors welcomed
 - Agenda was reviewed
2. Mosquito Workshop Planning and Discussion (15)– Danielle Bodner (CA)
 1. Al introduced Danielle sharing her support for the CA/WSA stream monitoring and her commendation from CA managers regarding her new mosquito workshop
 2. Plan the event (date and plan to advertise)
 - i. Danielle described her workshop and displayed the exhibit to be used as well as the trap that residents can make.
 - ii. She described the importance of mosquito control in general terms. The purpose of the workshop is to get residents to combat mosquito breeding in their neighborhoods.

- iii. The committee enthusiastically supported the workshop and discussed alternative dates and times when both the facility and Danielle were available. June 27th (Monday) at 7:00 was selected. The smaller Amherst house room was selected which can hold 25 attendees. Attendance will be limited to the first 25 who sign up. The workshop will be 1 ½ hours in duration. Danielle will demonstrate how to make a trap. After her presentation ends, a few attendees will be enabled to make a trap or take the directions home and make it later. Not all attendees will be able to make a trap at the meeting.
 - iv. Dawn will advertise the event in the KC Crown Prints and on KC social media (Facebook). CA may be able to advertise as well. Committee members should “share” the event with their friends and neighbors to encourage attendance.
 - v. Danielle was thanked and she left the meeting.
3. Old Business and Action Item Follow-up
- 1. Spring Cleanup Review and Fall Plan (5-10)– Hillary
 - i. Hillary summarized the Spring Cleanup. It was very successful despite rainy conditions. 39 people participated collecting over 36 bags of trash plus other stuff (not said at the meeting but the other stuff including a bed frame, a desk chair). The participation of the girl scouts and boy scouts was outstanding.
 - ii. Hillary led a discussion of potential new “give aways” as incentive and appreciation of participation. Past give aways included Tee shirts and water bottles. Suggestions included walking sticks, native plants and plant seeds. There is a small KC budget for “give aways”. Hillary will take the suggestions under advisement (think about it).
 - iii. Al mentioned that two streams were cleaned up especially noting Richard and his son in Huntington and Boy Scouts/Gail Holms and husband Albert in Dickenson.
 - iv. Dawn shared the publicity picture.
 - v. The fall cleanup date is October 22, 2016. The same general format will probably be used where attendees can cleanup around the village and small groups can attack special areas like streams. Al mentioned that streams are best accessible in the winter when the stickers are down.
 - 2. Quick Review of KC Gardening Seminars (January, February, March) (5)
 - i. While the January seminar was cancelled due to weather, the February and March seminars were well attended. These seminars exactly match our objective (see list at the end of the minutes).
 - 3. Continue “Walk with Ned” planning in accordance with committee recommendations from our March 10 2016 meeting (15).
 - i. We continued the discussion from the previous meeting.
 - ii. Al will invite the Master Gardeners, Watershed Stewards Academy and hopefully a few others to attend with their literature to promote KC Watershed and Open Space.
 - iii. The village center lobby and patio area will be reserved for the event. KC is always trying to rent out the large room so it might not be available.

- iv. We are not certain of how many will attend. CA is conducting many walks this year and pre-registration is not required. Dorsey Search is also combining their “walk with NED” with a variety of other environmental outreach and AI will attend and report back.
- v. Dawn will advertise the event. CA already is advertising.
- 4. Demonstrate our initial web page and discuss – Dawn (15)
 - i. Dawn described the web page she built for the committee. She demonstrated all the hot links to committee information (i.e. minutes) and to key environmental information and points of contact
 - ii. It’s a great start. Dawn requested ideas and suggestions for continually making the web site useful to our residents. All committee members are advised to submit ideas.
- 4. New Business
 - 1. Mosquito Workshop – moved to discuss first for visitor convenience
 - 2. KC Stream Restoration and Monitoring (10)
 - i. AI described upcoming county plans to remove the pond on Sweet Hours by restoring the stream and tunneling it under Sweet Hours. Hopefully this stream restoration will improve the quality of the water and the riparian buffer. It will be good if the county could attend the “walk with NED” to describe the plan.
 - ii. Stream Monitoring by HoCo Watershed Stewards – AI quickly described that this same stream was sampled last month by the HoCo Watershed Stewards Academy and that the results will be provided at the Walk with NED
- 5. Committee Member “Share” (an opportunity for each attendee to share (optional) any environmental activities, events or activity) (5-15)
 - 1. Nicky shared useful Greenfest literature including information on the county’s stream mapper and baywise backyard actions for a cleaner bay. She volunteered to research the availability of this brochure for our “Walk with Ned”
 - 2. AI share information regarding the sewage overflow behind our Stonebrook community into the Little Patuxent River. 5000 gallons leaked into the stream then to the Little Patuxent River. The Stonebrook HOA is concerned that the stabilization of the landscape after the sewer was repaired is inadequate. AI is concerned about preventing this problem in the future as well as the communication and warning to residents. AI is pursuing additional information from the county.
- 6. Meeting adjourned around 8:40

Results of 9/24/2015 Attendee Brainstorm (“what topics would you like the committee to address” and “what do you think could be done to maintain and improve the KC Environment”)

- 1. Promote erosion prevention
- 2. Promote proper use of fertilizer

3. Advocate best practices to beautify your lawn
4. Help finding environmentally friendly lawn maintenance providers – how to interview – good questions to ask, etc.
5. Study lawn grass alternatives
6. New forms of community notifications
 - a. Is there an app for that?
 - b. Patch
 - c. “did you know” in community newsletters
 - d. Engage block captains
7. CA Walk with Ned
8. Invasive species “weed warrior” program (10/10 and 10/17 HCC)
9. Deer