



GREEN INITIATIVE CITIZEN TASK FORCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes for: Thursday, July 31, 2008

The Green Initiative Citizen Task Force Committee met on Thursday, July 31, 2008. The meeting was held at Leawood City Hall in the Main Conference Room, 4800 Town Center Drive, Leawood, KS 66211. The meeting start time scheduled for 7:30 AM.

Members in attendance:

James Azeltine, Councilmember Liaison, Co-Chair
Debra Filla, Councilmember and Chair of the Committee
Lisa Cooper
Paula J. Cornwell
Kevin Jeffries (Honorary Member)
Cindy Thesing

Members Absent:

Camille Croteau
David Crupper
Alicia Jennings
Carolyn O'Malley
Bob Pierson

Staff in attendance:

Scott Lambers, City Administrator
George Ertle, Administrative Intern (via telephone conference call)
Julie Stasi, Administrative Services Manager, Leawood Public Works Department

- Chair Deb Filla called the meeting to order at 7:45 AM.
- Chair Filla reviewed the **meeting agenda**. James Azeltine made motion to approve the Agenda. The motion was seconded by Lisa Cooper. All were in favor. Motion to approve the meeting agenda passed unanimously.
- **Draft Minutes** from June 19, 2008 were reviewed. Paula Cornwell made motion to approve the minutes of June 19, 2008. The motion was seconded by Lisa Cooper. All members were in favor; Motion passed unanimously.
- The Committee Members acknowledged that the **Mission Statement** is set and validated. It was requested that a copy of the Mission Statement will placed on the City's Web site with the committee information of the

Green Task Force Committee.

- **Lisa Cooper reviewed the PR Update.**

Lisa Cooper advised she has taken a look at the City's Web site to see what we could do to enhance our presence. Lisa advised she is not a web developer but would like to see a Web Master individual in the Leawood Staff to take on some responsibilities. Member Cooper had a hand out listing:

- ▶ Basic web needs
- ▶ Press relations
- ▶ Make news and challenge Leawood Citizens.
- ▶ Outstanding Issues
(Budget, Leawood public relations, webmaster responsibilities)

Lisa was unsure as to who that person was and/or who that person reports to.

Scott Lambers advised that he is the person that the web person reports to.

Lisa Cooper-Basically hoped the Committee could give Mark (Andrasik) some responsibilities and some time lines. Not sure if the volunteers should be giving him his job responsibilities, but these are things that she would like to see happen.

On the Public relations aspect, thinks it is important moving forward. We have been meeting since May and we have had many sporadic meetings times since then, but it is not really news to send to the paper that Leawood has formed a committee. That is kind of blah. Our Centers of Influence spreadsheet is full of many wonderful ideas. If we could just take one and make it newsworthy prior to the October 9th meeting, that would get some press going.

What would be the easiest thing we could do from an operational perspective? Is it recycle bins at the soccer fields before soccer starts in 3 weeks? Is it having plastic bottle recycling at Town Center? What can we do that is going to say that we are making something happen? I think that to say we've formed a committee and we have a task force is really something that is just words. We need to make something happen. Would like to take one key initiative after this meeting and do it. School essays are good, but we need something that will impact now in the next 6 weeks. Something we can have a photo of and something that we are "doing".

Deb Filla advised we already have had something we accomplished. The Taste of Leawood had a recycling bin available and it was there.

Kevin Jeffries said that the press did not seem to care much about it.

Deb Filla said we can say that we now have recycling at City Hall and we

had recycling with the Taste of Leawood and if we had a third item, that would be good.

Committee members wondered about the status of recycling bins at the softball and soccer fields in Blue Valley & Johnson County and thought the Parks District was working on that.

Deb Filla said it appears that this is the third thing the committee would like to see happen and we can ask Scott Lambers about this. This would be good to lead in as the Mission Statement says, first is recycling, and we're talking about the homes associations, encouraging energy conservation which will come out of that meeting with follow on projects and then greener mobility options with Alicia's initiative for a bicycle city. Believes Parks is the high visibility avenue for the City. The essay contest you have been working on is another noteworthy thing to put in our notes. If we talk about what we've started, recycling in City Hall, recycling at the Taste of Leawood event, recycling in our Parks, essay contests with the schools and upcoming homes association meeting and more to follow; including making Leawood designated as a bicycle City. We should highlight what we have accomplished, our actions and awareness.

- **Scott Lambers was asked what his thoughts were on the City placing recycling at the City Parks.** What does it take to do it, how would we go about it? What are the obstacles?

Scott Lambers-advised he would need to get with Chris Claxton our Director of Parks & Recreation and see if we would want to place them on all the fields we would have to find out how much the containers cost and what the process is to have Deffenbaugh Disposal Service pick them up. Specifically, they are spread out like all the trash cans, so is not sure how the current pick up of trash works. Does our staff move them to a separate location in the Park? If you want to do something that makes an impact, you need to do it on a large scale.

Lisa Cooper-Maybe the Leawood Park could be the first test.

Scott Lambers advised that while he was in Milwaukee on City Business, he found an article where a town distributed bags to every home (about 6,000) to help eliminate the use of plastic bags. Hoping it would encourage their residents to purchase other reusable bags. These were canvas bags similar to the ones the Taste of Leawood has.

James Azeltine suggested getting sponsors who could help with the cost.

Scott Lambers-getting back to the question of the recycling containers. The containers would have to be ordered and when they would be available.

Kevin Jeffries-Do you think they would need to be heavy duty like the regular trash containers because things leak thru them? Does the City have a City truck that picks up the trash in the park?

Scott Lambers-They would need to be pretty durable. We should have something that is there all the time. Mr. Lambers advised he is not involved with the pick up mechanics of the City's parks trash. However we need to find out the cost of the barrels/containers and time frame of which we could get them and then the procedure of how they are disposed of. We will ask our intern George to check into this and do it pretty quick if you want it to be out there by September.

Paula Cornwell-Really likes the idea of visible recycling at the Parks. Thinks that would be very impactful. The other piece to think about is sponsorship. Paula works at Sprint and can ask them about it. Sponsors could have their name placed on the bin and maybe that could pick up some of the cost on the container.

Kevin Jeffries-Mentioned offering it to Chamber members as well, just to get the word out.

- **Deb Filla asked Lisa Cooper about the web site** again and what she needs.

Lisa Cooper-advised on the City's Web, where it says "other committees" we need to add the Green Task Force, the official name. We need to also list the members and the Vision Statement and the Mission Statement and have the minutes of the meetings there as well. This way people can go in and see this.

Julie Stasi-advised she could get that information to Information Services to have it posted on the City's Web site.

Lisa Cooper also mentioned the "Links of Interest" on the web site and thinks here there is no reason to re-invent the wheel, but there are millions of recycling tips and information on the internet. We could have links that direct the people to them.

Deb Filla-We have three things in our Mission Statement: Recycling, energy conservation and mobility. So those are the three links that we ought to put everything under.

Lisa Cooper-That would be Mark Andrasik's thing to create.

Deb Filla-If you give him the links..

Lisa Cooper-Advised she does not have the links. She thinks someone needs to go through it and "Google" for a few hours and find this information.

Kevin Jeffries-If we can just give him some to use.

Lisa Cooper-Locally, Lawrence Kansas has a ton of awesome information. They have an address called Lawrencerecycles.org and it lists everything around the City. Where they pick up glass, where you can donate clothes, they have a thing for re-use items. For instance, if you are trying to get rid of a desk don't send it to the land fill, put it out on your sidewalk and people can come get it and pick it up. There are so many things we could do with a web site. The key is getting people to the web site. In all the material that goes out from Leawood or anything the Homes Association meeting has, by our October 9th meeting, we should have all the web site stuff completed; or before then. Not sure how long it takes Mark to

do everything.

Julie Stasi-In response to what Lisa was saying about Lawrence and re-use of items. Leawood does have an Anti-Scavenger Ordinance that is enforced.

Usually you see this in other cities when they have a big trash day pick up and people are scavenging throughout the night before grabbing up their items.

Scott Lambers-that was also done to prevent identity theft.

Paula Cornwell-We could direct them to those places then.

Deb Filla-from what we're hearing is you have the okay that Mark can put those things on the web site. We just need you to come up with what you want out there.

Lisa Cooper-Does not personally have the time and cannot design the web site. But this should be the best of the best and really thought through. The goal should not be to have the web site complete by October 9th, but it should be completed by the time we have the first press release go out; by Labor Day maybe.

Deb Filla-You do not have to design it, just get the contact information that you would want to see on there and then he can put it on there. We have the Mission Statement, the Vision Statement, the Committee officers and then if we have some critical things that tie into these three categories that will be good. We do not have to do everything, but let's do something.

Paula Cornwell-If you provide an outline of the initial content and some of the key links maybe we could take a look at it and see if there are any other key items we would see and manage it that way.

Deb Filla-If we keep some of the key issues, we do not want to overwhelm the people with too much information.

Lisa Cooper-Needs to have a staff member that can work with a volunteer. Regarding press relations, we need to give them some news, not just a committee announcement. Ideally, was thinking mid August have a release go to the Press. Has a draft and will send it out to the members to see so they can edit.

Lisa Cooper-whenever the invitations to the Homes Associations go out, the Press should also be on the list. Does not know who sends out the invitations from Leawood or where in the process this is being handled. We need to make sure we also invite the media. The weekend of September 22nd would be a follow up e-alert to the Press which she would be happy to do, or, is there someone on staff at Leawood that is a PR Person? Is there someone that is paid to do this?

Scott Lambers-Advised, No, we do not have anyone from the press covering Leawood.

Kevin Jeffries-Advised he has a media list that the Chamber of Commerce uses. They are not experts at it, but they do have more than the City has.

Deb Filla-We'll have essay contest information, City Hall is recycling, the Taste of

Leawood recycling and the parks now that will be recycling and the Homes Association meeting that can be covered in the press release.

- Lisa Cooper-We have our Mission and our Vision and we have some cool news that we are going to hopefully make happen throughout the year. Whether it's the plastic bottle recycling or one of the other initiatives in here, we need to make this a go a figure out how we can make each initiative happen. Another thing we can consider that would spur people to action is what about having on the recycling bins a bumper sticker or something that says "Green Up Leawood".

We would be calling people to action. Lisa said she thinks "Greening with Distinction" is awesome as a vision, but thinks we need something that propels people. Something that they might see everywhere. Like a banner at the Halloween event or a slogan that we have on the home page. When people go to Leawood.org, there can be a banner that says "GREEN UP LEAWOOD", the user would click on the banner and it would direct them to the areas.

Greening with Distinction is more of our vision. A slogan like "Green Up Leawood" might make the first graders or a senior citizen get excited for action. We could use it everywhere. The web site once again would be a great place to put this. Although she does not know how to do it, just recommend it.

Deb Filla-Wondered if Lisa could bring back to the group a couple of options for Greening with Distinction and Green Up Leawood. If we're going to have these on everything how are they going to look? A logo?

Lisa Cooper-Does not know how to design logos. Was hoping we could find out today who was going to do all this. She is not a web designer and agrees we shouldn't get bogged down on doing some of this.

Deb Filla-We have to stay focused on our main item now which is recycling and get ready for our October meeting. Deb asked Scott if we could have Marica Putman help us to take one draft of the Leawood logo and help us with the Growing with Distinction logo and converting it to Greening with Distinction. We could pop the tree green and make the "growing" to "greening" and we're done.

We'd like to get it on the web and ready for our invitations.

- **Paula Cornwell described the Essay contest.** There are two pieces of how we will try to engage the schools. One is a Middle School essay contest and the other is for an elementary school environmental assembly and art contest..

Proposal attached to these minutes for description. More details will follow as far as double spaced, 7th Graders, and we will provide some clarity once we get into it. Our conduit is really through the English teachers. We need to get a time line established. If this is to go to the Council for Council Agenda approval, we have maybe the second meeting in August we can get this on or one in September. Teacher communications can go out in December and we propose a deadline of March 1st for the essays, with awards announced and given by April 22nd which is Earth Day.

Budget would determine prizes and also school recognition. Maybe the school that has the most participants; either by teacher or by classroom; possibly a gift certificate of \$100. Paula has already sent a note into Sprint to see if they might sponsor this.

Deb Filla-Asked Scott if the City has a budget for this.

Scott Lambers-Suggested the Leawood Foundation might be a source. Maybe you could ask them for \$500 and is there anything at the Chamber?

Kevin Jeffries said he could put it out there to see if there is any support, however thinks the Foundation is probably the best bet.

Deb Filla-someone like California Pizza could get a good press release and then make it a pizza party for the class who wins.

Paula Cornwell-Talked about the judging process with various representatives. Maybe a couple of folks from the community or high school students, English teachers, Green Committee members, City Council or Mayor. Possibly narrow it down to five (5) and then ask the Mayor.

Cindy Thesing- Same thoughts that would be part of the publicity of having the Mayor choosing the best.

Paula Cornwell-thought launching it in December would be good with a lot of communications with the English teachers being the conduit and then on April 22nd (Earth Day) having the recognition.

The elementary green program was two pieces; a green assembly that Julie Coon from Johnson County Environmental could help with. There are only a few elementary schools in Leawood (6) and that presentation could all be part of what we have for the homes association meeting. Instead of an essay contest for the elementary schools, have it be an art contest. This could be opened up to all ages.

Deb Filla-Another thing if we get the logistics on the web site about the committee on this announcement, then we have all those households informed about the committee and what we are doing (with all the links), and that will be good.

Paula Cornwell-I thought the last time we talked we needed to get the City Councils approval or their blessing to do the contest.

Scott Lambers-Advised Deb Filla to check with Mayor Dunn and see if she'll let you bring it up under Council members report.

Lisa Cooper-Is it better in terms of the City Council approval, is it better to approve one program at a time or go with the whole package?

Deb Filla-No lets just do this. Because in the Committee Report we'd have to talk about all of that and this should be sent to the members of Council in advance and we can include it in the minutes and then the members get that during the meeting. Deb Filla advised she reads all her packet information and follows all the items for the committees.

Cindy Thesing-had a question about the essay. If this is approved, where are the essays sent? Can they be sent to the City? I think that is important so that it really looks like it's coming from the City instead of something being sent to a member's house. We should also have a name and a phone number of someone to contact if the teacher has a question.

Deb Filla-Essays (or questions) should come to the City

Scott Lambers-Send it to the Mayors office.

Deb Filla-She will make the report at the August 4th council meeting and is sure James Azeltine will second the motion.

Lisa Cooper-We also need to have the contact names of who to send the information to at the schools.

Cindy Thesing-Thought George Ertle was going to do that, but not sure if he did. Is happy to call the schools, we need the principal and the seventh grade English teachers name. What do we need?

Paula Cornwell-Suggested that if this gets approved by the City Council, then we need to do have a small meeting and put together our action plan of what we need to do.

Debra Filla-Keep it simple. What you put together for this group is also what we can have for the homes association meeting.

Lisa Cooper-Doesn't mean to keep bringing this up, but who in terms of getting some sort of page that goes out to the schools with "Greening with Distinction Essay Contest" or poster, something kind of fun that goes out.

Debra Filla-We'll we will want to do a press release in the time line that it goes out.

Paula Cornwell-We can work on all that once we get approval.

James Azeltine-When we were talking about Lisa's idea of "Green Up" before, "Green Up" could be used as like a name of a program within the entire thing. It could be done in a way that it didn't detract from our overall theme. Green Up Essay Contest.

Deb Filla-I think that's a great idea because you had sent out an email about some of the schools doing an audit. So if in fact the schools got to a point where we had a program and we were talking about doing green home audits or school audits that would be a perfect program called "Green Up".

Paula Cornwell-Thinking about what we've committed to here so far, which is getting a web site up and running, getting recycling in the Parks that do not exist

today. Getting a homes association meeting, an essay contest and a bicycling city designation. To keep it simple, when I think about recycling, energy conservation and mobility. The energy conservation will be covered partly in the HOA Meeting. My proposal is in looking at our spreadsheet; I would caution us to take on more than we've laid out here, personally. I'd rather do a few things really well, keeping it simple. Then try to take on too many things. How we build some of these ideas that came up. Put some of these things out there for the HOA Meeting, but I'm worried Debra about us getting spread way too thin and doing everything this well instead of doing a few things really well.

James Azeltine-To further complicate the line of conversation. I think what we might want to do is to go back and look at what our charge was when this task force was created. Was it to create and implement a bunch of programs around the green theme? Or was it to come up with an overall program and report back to the Council and say this is what at the end of the year we've come up with and this is what we think Leawood should be doing moving forward. I wonder if it's not the later. I think we need to think about that before we start jumping in and doing programs.

Deb Filla-I appreciate that line as well. I think in terms of the scope that we were given is citizen activity. So we have focused in on that of being a green committee which is pretty vague. I think to the point we are making those strides. I really saw this spread sheet as a way of collecting all of our ideas, making sure that when we see something that would be logistically in line with the project that we go ahead and grab that idea and incorporate it into our plans. So that we don't keep coming up with the discussion over and over and over and never capture it. So this way, we know we have got ideas. Like the Halloween idea for recycling. Maybe we'll incorporate that idea, or maybe it will wait till the Spring; with the idea of capturing recycling hazardous waste. How to we bring attention to hazardous waste, we can come back to one of our three goals.

James Azeltine-You are right on, that is what I'm thinking. Just gather all that and then figure out how you are going to implement it; as far as maybe a January to December timeline. Plug those in and spread them out in the appropriate fashion. Who we are collaborating with and so forth and then my understanding was the idea of a task force is to come up with all that stuff and then go back to the Governing Body saying, this is what we came up with. They then stamp it and then who knows maybe then there is a standing committee formed at that point. I don't know. Food for thought.

Deb Filla-I do think we've talked about the mobility and thinking maybe creating a mobility project on 85th Street. Yet again we have not done a lot on energy conservation. Or how do we distribute bags in stead of plastic? That might be a project. It seems like other than immediate items, maybe time-lining some of these next steps we really are pretty much outlined. I think we've done a good job in staying focused on our Mission Statement and our actions are being

focused on citizen activity and yet we're building some logistically with staff and chambers and the schools. We wanted to do that, so I think we're on target and I think that was a great suggestion. I'll ask everybody to go through this and see if there is anything that we are missing that could tie into one of our existing things; whether it be the homes association meeting or the essay contest. If there is something mission, then suggest what we want to do in that time frame.

Lisa Cooper-One thing that we talked about was being able to measure things. Does it make sense in terms of the plastic bins at the soccer fields, will the Mayor say, 6 months from now, great, I love the fact that you got the plastic recycling out there, how much did we generate? Do we need to measure that? Do we need to define some sort of ...we're starting September 1 at ground zero and by January 1 have we collected 25 tons and generated "X" number of dollars?

Scott Lambers-If there is a revenue stream, then there would have to be a report to me saying we have recycled "x" amount at a rate of 2 cents per ton or pound, whatever it is and that information could be there. Or if it's just hauled away, I don't know.

Lisa Cooper-I was just thinking to James point, if we go back and present to the City Council. If I was the Mayor, I'd say; "What did you get?" Or maybe that's not a concern.

Deb Filla-Let's go back to how the committee came to be. It was because citizens came and asked the Mayor to sign the Mayor's Global Protection Agreement. Peggy's response was that she was not comfortable signing it, but would rather pursue, as Alicia suggested, a task force and have more to show for it than just a signature on paper. I think we are certainly going down that road. Thank you, Paula for all your work with the spreadsheet.

Paula Cornwell- I think we've bitten off a lot.

Lisa Cooper-Maybe this is a five year plan.

Paula Cornwell-I think you're right, I think the only piece that concerns me when I think about our Mission Statement is what are we doing around energy conservation? When we talk about bicycling and the parks recycling and the school contest. The school contest is how we lead and motivate and so is the web site. The collaboration is that we are collaborating with our homes associations and the schools to raise awareness, etc. The piece that feels like we are still missing is around energy conservation. Maybe that is just making sure that that is very prominent at the homes association meeting.

Kevin Jeffries-There could be links on the web site, similar to what KCP&L is doing. KCP&L is doing a lot to encourage energy conservation. They have things on their web site and I get information in my electric bills with tips on how to save energy.

Deb Filla-Maybe that is something we can expand on the school program with the assembly piece and or the web. A Green Up project for the spring, which is how do you do energy audits. The kids could do one in school and one in their

home and come up with a format and have a contest.

Kevin Jeffries-KCP&L has a calculator on their website where you can type in your carbon foot print and so there are resources out there that maybe we could link to our website.

Deb Filla-So we all need to focus on (after we get through the Homes Association meeting) we could turn our attention to energy conservation and including a "Green Up" program for auditing schools and homes. Information, education, motivation; retailers too. Another idea was that of mobility. Trying to get that concept of bikes in the Town Center area that could be a fun spring project. The idea was that you designated a color coded area in Town Center where you could ride bicycles from place to place.

Lisa Cooper-When we were in New York they had guys taking shoppers from Barnies to Bloomingdales in a little peddy-cabs, bikes like a rickshaw.

Deb Filla-So we have a plan of action for the year and we are going to keep refining it and I am so excited about everything everyone has done so far, this is all coming together.

The group looked to Scott Lambers regarding the dinner and if there was a budget.

Cindy Thesing-It's very difficult to figure out a dinner and the price if you do not have a budget. The lowest cost is around \$13 per person and it goes all the way up to \$40 per person. We were confused on if you wanted a buffet or if it was to be served.

Deb Filla-A buffet.

Cindy Thesing-The other problem is that a lot of the places include in the price is the paper products & set up. And we do not want to do that, correct? So now we'll have to step out and go to a rental place and rent the dishes. We have collected a ton of information but we really need a budget before we can go forward.

Deb Filla-We had that with the I-Lan dinner. They found a person who does just simply bringing in the plates tables and set up. So we will have someone do that.

James Azeltine-How many people do we think will show up?

Cindy Thesing-There are 55 homes associations and we were hoping to have 1 to 2 per association. I think that is high.

Committee Members-many thought that was a high expectation.

Deb Filla-Thinks 100 is reasonable by the time we get the committee.

Kevin Jeffries-I think if you get 20 or 30 people there it would be good.

Cindy Thesing-We talked about serving beer and wine, so the cost of the dinner does not include that or renting the plates, so I think we're in the thousands.

Committee member comment-what if we did appetizers and drinks?

Scott Lambers-I think a dinner, if you're going to have a presentation from the County. That takes quite awhile, and you are expecting people to commit an evening. I would say the tough thing is guessing the number. I would say you

want to plan on 75 people and probably keep it at \$15 per person would be in the middle of what you are looking at. Julie, get with Chris and find out who supplies the dinnerware. We will pay for the drinks separately. Give me the information on the dinner and the drinks. You are going to have people from the County coming, guest speakers.

Deb Filla-We are going to have Mayor Dunn kick it off.

Scott Lambers-You'll have the City Council. I'll plan on 100. Have people RSVP.

Kevin Jeffries-Scott, did the Fourth of July Volunteer event turn out to what you expected, or was it more?

Scott Lambers-They did eat more food than we thought. We planned for 200 people and we had like 125 and there was not a crumb left.

Deb Filla-You also have the City van that you've offered to pick up people that need transportation, so we will need RSVP's and we'll have to know who we have to pick up.

Scott Lambers-Yes, they will have to RSVP for the event and also if they want to be part of the car pool.

Kevin Jeffries-Part of our challenge as we know is we need to get this Homes Association list done so we know who to invite. We have fifty homes association but we have no idea who is in charge of those various associations at this point. This is another one of our key pieces that we need to figure out how to contact them.

Cindy Thesing-The ones we do not know, we may have to call the old president and ask them. We will run into some of those snags. Maybe Deffenbaugh can tell us who they send the bill to.

Kevin Jeffries-After we get the ones, someone needs to maintain the list as well.

Deb Filla-Assign three to every one of us and we should be able to help.

Paula Cornwell-That is one of our motivations is a 30% increase in trash costs. We have to figure out a plan.

- **Plastic Bag Conversation of possible actions.**

Deb Filla-One of the ideas that Scott Lambers just mentioned is an example of the City of Milwaukee giving away a free reusable bag to every citizen. Scott, in terms of budgeting for that, do we need to think that the City would do that? Or do we want to turn and look for sponsors? Or coming back to the committee is that the action you want to take? To me, I have to tell you, I could not get my husband to give up plastic bags until I was sent the presentation that shows the bird with the plastic bag over its head. We need to have that on a board. My husband saw it and went out and found his recyclable bags for the dog's yard waste and now is recycling his bags and he purchased three of them at HyVee. That picture was the action item. Education has a profound effect and if we give a carrot...

Lisa Cooper-There was an article in this mornings editorial page and it was asking people should we ban plastic bags at grocery stores, yes or no and no

one disagrees the plastic is bad. But what it comes down to is plastic is 5cents to produce, paper was 10 cents and the canvas bag was around 22 cents. The bottom line is, is it better to go to the Hen House at 119th & Roe and say, stop your plastic bag use? Or is it better to encourage consumers? The point is, will consumers do it or do you start at the merchant and have them get rid of it? That can be a lot of financial issues with the merchants. Whole Foods did it. Which is better?

Deb Filla-I think politically it is going to take a lot of energy to ban the plastic bags. I like the idea of trying to use essentially an educational tool and we can make it part of the associations meeting and part of the school assembly.

Cindy Thesing-If we do the bag, we could put a picture of the bird inside it and say something simple that this is what we can do if we stop using plastic bags. The people at the grocery stores were willing to wait for me the other day when I forgot my bags and they were out in the car. So I think they are attuned to it and they are willing to work with us.

Paula Cornwell-One option would be to have a bag for every household. Another option would be when we have these events, to have a bag available at the events.

Scott Lambers-Has thousands of bags, he'll check on it.

NEXT STEPS

➤TASKS

- Task Force-Review Centers of Influence Spreadsheet
- Review draft of the invitation to the HA meeting.
- Web master responsibilities.
- Scott follow up with Chris Claxton with plan for recycling in the City Parks
- Lisa give us a draft for content for the Web site.
- Julie with Scotts permission, work with Mark to get the Information we want on the web.
- If everyone has time go to www.lawrencerecycle.org and check out their web site. It is a simple web site and it's what we need.
- Send a draft out about our Press Release so we can edit.
- Ask City staff member Marica Putman to get us a "Greening with Distinction" logo.

➤ **Green Meeting Schedule**

The next meeting needs to be focused on finalizing the preparations for the October 9th Homes Association Meeting.

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday,

August 28, 2008-7:30 AM

Leawood City Hall, Main Conference Room.

- Meeting invite: Stormwater Management Committee Meeting scheduled for Friday, September 12, 2008 at 7:30AM

The Stormwater Management Committee has invited the Green Initiative Task Force Committee to attend this meeting and listen to speakers on "Rain Gardens" and "Bio-Retention".

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 AM.

Minutes transcribed by Julie Stasi.

Olympus File DS300015

attachments: PR/Web Recommendations
School & Student Sub-Committee Proposal
Centers of Influence Spreadsheet