

Environmental Forum Meeting Notes Monday, 11/1/21 6:30 pm

Present: Susan Leuthauser, PJ Slobojan, Glenda Guster, Sue Normoyle, Deb Mathias, Shirley Johnson, Lori McCollum, Thomas Benge, Julie Ross

Lori reported that information is coming on Plastic Initiatives.

Nov 9 St Ambrose Environmental Event, 11 am – 2 pm. EF will be tabling, along with other environmental groups and industry. Should be good way to connect with students.

Bring Back the Bins. RI County eliminated recycle drop-off bins. Another meeting will take place Nov. 13th at 9 am at St. John's Lutheran Church in Rock Island. Would be good to have members present at October 16th County Waste Management meeting and at evening is RI County Board meeting.

Monthly Take-Action Calendar: November is "America Recycles Month." Lori wrote up and posted on FB and submitted to WEU. Also wrote up letter for Shirley to submit. December is World Soil Month. Volunteer??? Lori can do if no one else can.

City Reports:

- **Eldridge:** Mike Cox reports nothing in minutes
- **Davenport:** PJ: Not much in minutes, but looking to apply for grants for all-electric vehicles for city. Will be working on flood plan at upcoming meeting this Wednesday. PJ suspects it will go through.
- **Bettendorf:** Tom Benge says not much in environmental questions. Susan shared from previous minutes (July/August): Water fountains for retention ponds (increases aeration). New neighborhoods need to plant/replace trees. Meeting minutes are scant.
- **Milan:** Deb Mathias reports nothing in agenda re: environmental issues. Milan also talking
- **Moline:** Sue Normoyle says Moline is working with Coal Valley to share its excess water, but have decided against bottling.
- **Silvis:** Josh Dyer said working to get solar power for Fire Station. Working to get recycle bins at apartment building. Silvis having a water shortage. Currently drawing off East Moline. Looking to drill more wells to be independent.
- **East Moline:** No report. Seeking a EF member
- **Rock Island:** Shirley said looking for new City Manager. Looking to install solar panels on all municipal buildings. December meeting should have updates.

Other Announcements:

Environmental Film Festival on Sunday 14th at Figge: **Sustainable Nation** (*lessons from Israel*). These are generally poorly attended. Everyone masked and well-spaced. Many films can be found online.

Tomorrow night is Green Drinks. Kathy Wine of River Action will be speaking
Sister Cathleen Real fell at end of October and is in Manor Care convalescing. We should keep her in our thoughts. Susan sent a card on EF's behalf.

With gratitude: Shirley Johnson was at Farmer's Market every Saturday morning for the last 6th months. Much thanks to her. She has done a huge service to the community. Great connections have also been made.

What to do next year for Monthly Actions? Possibly, "What You Can Do at Home This Month" Can be put on next month's agenda. Shirley will send out ideas to our distribution list. Could print out the year's monthly actions as Calendar? Laminated placemats? Cloth bags? Place in local parks?

Green Drinks: December Olivia Dorothy. Suggestions for 2022? Sarah Gardner has ideas. Shirley had lists. Ron Ewoldt, Local farmer/biofuel; Lead-Free QC; Farm Field Day on 17th. Lori will submit to WEU or on FB; Solar project near QC Airport; Environmental Ethics (Ambrose professor); Would be interested to hear from mayor of DesMoines, who is in Glasgow.

Notes taken by Julie Ross