

Grand Lakes Green Committee

Meeting Date: December 7, 2016, 9-10:30am

Committee Members in Attendance: Leigh Anne Goerland, Patrick Friend, Larry Lucarelli, Grace Young Baechle

## Meeting Minutes

### **Old/New Business:**

The Green Survey was emailed last week to residents, posted on Facebook, and on Nextdoor (Grand Lakes sites only). The committee briefly discussed the survey responses (over 250 participated so far). The survey will close at the end of January.

### Develop Our Plans & Next Steps

#### 1. Earth Day Event and Drive

a. The committee will brainstorm names for the event. We will work towards Saturday, April 22, 2017 to coincide with the Grand Lakes Spring garage sale, which is Earth Day.

b. Grace presented 3 components of the event:

i. Recycling drive-

(a) textiles and small household items -\$0 for an *American Textile Recycling* bin. contact Joe Isaac [Jisaac@atrsonline.com](mailto:Jisaac@atrsonline.com)

(b) electronics - \$750 with *Compucycle* for 2 staff for 4 hours, a 50 box truck; Leigh Anne to look through Best Buy's accepted household items list to see if we can accept household items using another alternative. contact Monica Villafranca [mvillafranca@compucycle.com](mailto:mvillafranca@compucycle.com). A contract needs to be signed in order to proceed.

(c) BOPA \$4500 - Larry was unable to identify other vendors. We will continue to look for lower cost options but have not ruled it out yet.

ii. Service project -

(a) Volunteers through Seven Lakes High School so students can get their service hours, or neighborhood troops from Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, etc. Grace already contacted Kirsten Hampshire [kirstenwhampshire@katyisd.org](mailto:kirstenwhampshire@katyisd.org).

(b) Service projects would be to clean up litter along Fry Rd, or Buffalo Bayou waterway clean up. Grace had already contacted an affiliate with Keep Texas Beautiful and will follow up on collaborating with Heb.

iii. Farmer's market -

(a) An idea that was generated through the survey. Many residents responded favorably and would like to see a community wide farmer's market. Will follow up with the neighbor who posted about a community farmer's market on social media in October 2016, to see if there was any work in progress on a market day.

c. Grace already contact Katy Prairie conservancy and Buffalo Bayou Partnership but the organizations are booked on April 22nd. The committee discussed the pros and cons of having the event at the parking lot by the Rock Pool, by the green circle also near the Rock Pool, or at Alexander Elementary Parking lot.

*Action: We will continue the planning in a working session on December 14th, 10:30am at our regular meeting location.*

#### 2. Landscaping/Lake Management Practices

- a. The committee reviewed an outline Patrick put together. The outline included topics of landscaping and lake chemicals, watering, and planting. The aim of the landscaping/lake management practices review is to identify opportunities to be more cost effective, employ greener management practices, and reduce GL's environmental footprint. The product of our review is to be recommendations to the Board.
  - b. *Action: Next steps: Patrick to put together follow up questions for the GL contractors, Larry to research best practices associated with landscaping and lake management.*
3. Green Tips in Newsletter
  - a. *Action: Next steps: Leigh Anne to put together a draft.* The TCEQ website has some info we can draw from. Another idea is to include a "Your Questions Answered" topic.
4. Follow Ups from October 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting:
  - a. *Action: Leigh Anne to email Erica regarding sidewalks and uprooted plants Cinco process*
  - b. *Action: Trash Bins, Litter Items - Leigh Anne will research by October 2017.*
  - c. Larry has contacted Best Trash multiple times regarding a tour of their recycling facility but has been not able to connect with the correct person on their side. *Next steps: Larry plans to continue to follow up, probably in person next.*

**Next Steps:**

1. Annual meeting on December 13<sup>th</sup>.
2. Complete action items noted above.

Next meeting is January 11, 2017 9am.

Meeting adjourned 10:45 am.