

Keep Wickliffe Beautiful Commission

May 26, 2010

Chairman Debbie Edelman called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Members Present: Mary Ann Boos, Dottie Cirino, Debbie Edelman, Ron Ely, Patty Fowler, Becky Haller, Barbara Joyce, Sandy Luther, Chris Mlachak, Becky Podoba. Excused: Ronnie Bubonics, Kara Maruszak, Andrew Macuga and Greg Taylor. A quorum was declared.

Approval of Minutes: Ron Ely had a correction to his Legislation report in the April 28th minutes, that should have read that first quarter income was better than expected and that expenses were less than expected for the period. Barb Joyce moved to accept the April 28, 2010, minutes as corrected with and Becky Podoba seconded. Motion carried and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Communications/Correspondence: Fowler reported that Wickliffe schools had two winners in the Lake County Clean & Green Logo Contest. Kayla Hayes from the Wickliffe Elementary School and Hannah Snyder from the Wickliffe Middle School were recognized with a special presentation at the March 13th Lake County Commissioner's meeting. Their winning logos will be on display at their schools.

Treasurer's Report: Fowler gave the treasurer's report Bubonics. Chris Mlachak moved to accept the reports and Barb Joyce seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Business: Debbie Edelman had no report, but has some ideas for Bright Spot selections.

Legislation: Ron Ely, Council Representative, reported that the County is now in surveillance mode for West Nile Virus. Dead bird reports should be called into the Health Department, but they will not be picking up the dead birds. The Health Department will pick up mammals suspected of contracting rabies in their efforts to contain the spread of raccoon strain rabies. A new handicap ramp is being designed for the back entrance of City Hall and should be built sometime this summer. The bid for the demolition of the Jindra pool and pool house has been awarded and should begin soon.

Great American Cleanup: The ramp cleanup was held on May 15th with nine volunteers participating. It took about 1.5 hours to clean up three of the four ramps. We collected about 30 bags of trash, for a total of 600 pounds. The Police Department provided safety coverage during the event and suggested that all volunteers work on one ramp at a time next year, instead of working on all simultaneously. This will allow for better safety coverage. Fowler to incorporate this into next year's cleanup plans. Also, the ramp cleanup will be scheduled in late April or early May next year, not in March when the Ohio Freeway Cleanup is usually scheduled. Weather conditions required two postponements this year due to scheduling too early in the spring season.

Publicity: All events are on the website, cable channel and were detailed in the latest *Wickliffe Connection*.

Recycling: Chris Mlachak reported that we collected 11.36 tons of paper in the Abitibi Paper Retriever bins in April, exceeding our last year total of 9.99 tons. As a result, we received double the incentive rebate for the month's collection. Household Hazardous Waste collection will be held on June 5th at the Lake County Fairgrounds from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Fowler will take the collected batteries to this collection. Phone book collection will begin on June 25 through July 30, but we can still put phone books into the Abitibi bins at any time.

Ron Ely expressed concern about storm water runoff of lawn chemicals into the storm sewers and eventually Lake Erie. He also mentioned that the City has to clean out the catch basins frequently and this waste is then dried out at the Ohio Mulch site and then taken to the Lake County Landfill once it has been inspected by the EPA. This is a costly program and expense could be decreased if residents kept their leaves off the street where they are then washed into the catch basin. Perhaps some guidelines for residents could be published for their information.

Rose Garden: The Rose Garden Ceremony will be held on June 16th at City Hall. The Commission agreed to purchase the cookies from Sophie's Catering again this year. The Commission will host the Cleveland Rose Society meeting in the Memorial Rose Garden on June 23rd, and tours of the garden and Coulby Mansion will be given at that time.

Ways and Means: Letters to businesses generated \$ 800 in donations for the Euclid Avenue planters. We also raised \$575 at the 2009 Awards Banquet raffle for this, and received some grant money from ODNR to help defray the cost of the flower purchase.

The annual KWB golf outing will be held on June 6th. So far we have 39 golfers and 18 hole sponsors for the event. Fowler circulated a sign-up sheet for volunteers to assist with the registration desk, photos, and to set up the door prizes at the I&A Hall for the dinner.

Yard of the Year: Sandy Luther has placed the nomination boxes and forms at various locations in the City and will put one at the Coulby pool when it opens in June.

Education: Beck Haller reported that things are winding down at the schools for the end of the year. She will be dropping off collected batteries at City Hall to be taken to the HHW collection. The Wickliffe Middle School Ecology Club assisted with the planting of eight flower boxes on Euclid Avenue, under the supervision of Mrs. Rayl.

Beautification: The Wickliffe PRIDE in Bloom committee and KWB volunteers planted the Euclid Avenue flowers and other City planters on Thursday, May 20th. The pre-planted flower baskets were quite heavy and it was a two man job to get them into the planters. Many thanks to our wonderful volunteers!

OLD BUSINESS:

Arbor Day: Arbor Day was held on Thursday, April 29, at Orlando Park. A recognition of the 40th Anniversary of Earth Day was included in the ceremony. Alan Siewert from ODNR, Forestry Division, presented the 30th anniversary award for Tree City USA to the Mayor, who spoke about planting more trees in our City parks. Fowler asked if there were any suggestions for improvements. Becky Podoba suggested that we find more ways to publicize the event to make more people aware of the event, i.e. senior center, library, etc. Fowler will look into this for next year's event. Barb Joyce said that she will work with Fowler on setting up Facebook connections.

Shred Your Files Day: Was held on May 8th at the Community Center from 11 AM – 2 PM. Three students earned community service hours working this event with an adult supervisor. It was windy and rainy, but 125 cars attended the event and 2.75 tons of paper was shredded for recycling.

NEW BUSINESS:

Fowler mentioned that KWB will be hosting the Cleveland Rose Society meeting in the Memorial Rose Garden on June 23rd, and that there is a lot of interest by their group in attending this meeting. The Northeastern Ohio Rose Society will also be attending. We expect about 30 people from their groups to attend. Tours of the mansion and garden will take place after their meeting. Refreshments will be served in the Rose Garden by KWB members or in the Victorian Room if it is a rainy evening.

Barb Joyce suggested that we investigate uploading videos of our events to You-tube. Purchase of a flip video recorder has the software to allow this function. It would be a way to generate interest in upcoming events. Also, we can use it as an instructional video demonstrating what can be recycled and in what bins, etc. Fowler to look into this.

Debbie Edelman announced that ABB will be hosting its annual Garage Sale on June 11 & 12, from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm in their parking lot. Proceeds benefit Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital and the Cleveland Food Bank.

Chris Mlachak moved that the meeting be adjourned and Mary Ann Boos seconded. All approved and the meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m. The group then adjourned to the Rose Garden for photos with the TroyBilt backpack blower and string trimmer that we received as an in-kind donation.

The next KWB meeting will be held on **June 23, 2010, at 7:00 PM** at Wickliffe City Hall. It will be held at the same time as the Cleveland Rose Society meeting and we will then host the reception after the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Fowler
Program Director