

KEEP MIDLOTHIAN BEAUTIFUL MINUTES
APRIL 18, 2019

The Keep Midlothian Beautiful Meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m.

Present: Karen Kreis, Kristen Ramirez, Helen Lekavich, Chris Parker, Joanna Whitten, Jerry Gillis, Sr. Theda Reed, Karina Huaman, Gail Martinez, Jean Bartecki, Dan Delaney, Rita Sareny and Maria Kolacki.

March 21, 2019 Minutes were not available for approval.

Update of the Executive Director Position – Karen Kreis commented that this is taking longer than she anticipated and she is hopeful that the Village Board will approve the position this week.

Recognition Award - Karen Kreis was pleased to announce that we received a Keep American Beautiful President Circle Recognition Award 2018 and was presented to Keep Midlothian Beautiful. This award recognizes the standards of excellence achieved by your affiliate in 2018 and is signed by Helen Lowman, President and CEO of Keep America Beautiful.

Update from Bremen High School – Karen Kreis received an email from Jessica Rucinski that the girls' soccer team and football team will be attending the Great Midlothian Cleanup. She asked to keep the two groups as close to Bremen as possible.

Update of the Installation of the KMB signs - Kristen Ramirez advised that 28 signs have been installed in the week of March 19th. Karen Kreis asked if one of the two remaining signs could be placed by the main entrance of the Country Club on the north side. The last sign will be placed at 149th and Cicero. She asked to purchase additional signs. This will be reviewed.

Great Midlothian Cleanup Discussion – Kristen Ramirez advised that there are 28 sites not including a few areas near the schools, except Bremen. Kristen will forward a list of locations to all KMB Meeting members.

Karen received an email from the Sustainability Coordinator of the Hollywood Casino Amphitheatre in Tinley Park and they are looking for projects for Earth Day on April 22nd. She advised them that we did not have anything on April 22nd, but we have the Great Midlothian Cleanup on April 27th and emailed the information to him. He advised that he would pass this on to his superior. He found out about us through Keep America Beautiful since they are looking at local affiliates.

Garbage and Clean-Up - We will also be measuring all garbage. A bag of litter is 20 pounds and we will need to calculate how many bags are collected, which will be reported on the KMB dashboard so that we remain an affiliate in good standing. Helen questioned if we started early collecting the garbage, if this would be included in the count and Karen Kreis confirmed that it would definitely be part of the calculations. She reminded everyone to keep track of their hours. Pictures will also be taken by various individuals so that they can be sent to KAB to upload the photos.

Letters to Businesses – There were many businesses visited recently by Karen, Rita, Jean, Jerry and Chris and the provided our letter, flyer and brochure. The businesses were very receptive.

Food Donations – Kristen read the list: Dunkin Donuts (munchkins for the kids); Quimex (soda and water); Save A Lot (she is picking up water and juice the day before); Kenootz (pizza and salad); Bartolini's (two pizzas); Gum Wah (egg rolls); Berkots (fried chicken - we received a \$50 gift certificate); White Castles; Berry Field Café (coffee, rolls and juices for the morning). Public Works is providing plates, napkins, creamer, sugar and plasticware. Karen will get in touch with McDonalds and Burger King. Kristen suggested visiting Subway and Chief Delaney suggested visiting Mr. Sub instead. Helen asked if money could be taken out of the budget if necessary and Karen confirmed that we could (\$250). The coordination of picking up the food will be discussed.

Ernie from Republic Services has provided recycling flyers.

Kristen was pleased to note that we will be having a tree planting at 12:00 p.m. at 14817 Keystone. This is a donated tree through one of the grants we received. A Proclamation will be read at the Board Meeting.

Volunteer Outreach – There will be some new videos on Facebook. Helen asked everyone to go on our page on Facebook and engage the videos (like it, comment and share it).

Shred Event – Rita Sareney asked if we have a tent and Jerry Gillis advised that he would provide the tent.

Star Awards - Karen Kreis advised that Kristen Ramirez is creating Star Certificates for the students for their participation in the Great Midlothian Cleanup

Rita Sareney has a box for printer cartridges, glasses and hearing aids.

Volunteer Assignments – Karen Kreis suggested that the KMB group act as team leaders. Since we have experience with cleaning up, you take a group under your wing with gloves, bags and rakes and take them with you to a site. Make sure you document your hours.

Chris Parker suggested barricades be in place by Public Works at the various sites so everyone knows where the sites are. Kristen Ramirez advised that she has maps that will be provided. The maps have each of the quadrants in town and will number the areas. Everyone will receive a copy of the maps.

Cigarette/Litter Stand – We have 25 Cigarette/Litter Stands for the Village. Public Works will be installing these soon and will be our responsibility to empty them. If a business is interested, the business will be responsible for the maintenance. There was a long discussion on the location of the stands.

The CRS Townhall Meeting will be on Thursday, April 4th and at the bottom of the invitation card, the Cleanup Day was mentioned.

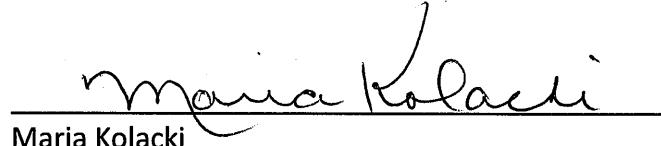
Cigarette Litter Prevention Program Grant – KAB had a grant for this program and Karen Kreis applied for a \$5,000 grant. She also included funding to purchase the Cigarette Stands. They are supposed to announce it by tomorrow. She also requested 400 pocket ashtrays and 200 car ash trays.

Jerry Gillis, Sr. suggested attending the Chamber Meetings and advertising about Keep Midlothian Beautiful. They have asked to be included. There was a long discussion on the Chamber presence.

Next Meeting Date will be on Thursday, May 16, 2019 at 12:00 p.m.

The Keep Midlothian Beautiful Meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:


Maria Kolacki

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Deputy Clerk