

KEEP MIDLOTHIAN BEAUTIFUL MINUTES
JANUARY 17, 2019

The Keep Midlothian Beautiful Meeting was called to order at 12:10 p.m.

Present: Karen Kreis, Helen Lekavich, Kristen Ramirez, Maria Kolacki, Kathy Caveney, Superintendent Joe Sparrey, Superintendent Nick Weinert, Lieutenant Amrein, Chris Parker, Rita Sareny, Jerry Gillis, Sr., Marsha Amraen, Juan Ramirez, Jessica Rucinski and Rebecca Deneka.

Approval of the November 15, 2018 Minutes – Motion to approve the November 15, 2018 Keep Midlothian Beautiful Minutes was made by Chris Parker and seconded by Jerry Gillis, Sr.

Discussion: There was no further discussion.

Roll Call: Ayes: All in Favor. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Update of Executive Director Position – Karen Kreis advised that we are recruiting for an Executive Director and is a part-time position. The position has been posted on the Village website, but we have not received any applications as of this date.

Karen Rozmus and Sue Smith arrived and will be providing additional training after the Meeting.

Garbage Cans - Kristen Ramirez advised that the garbage cans they had behind Public Works were very old and she originally believed that there would be a few that would be salvageable. Chris Parker then commented that the garbage cans are more than 15 years old, are sun damaged, the plastic is breaking down and they are brittle. The screws holding the cans together are somewhat damaged. He contacted Rubber Maid and the parts are obsolete and no longer available. Some of the garbage cans will work if we take the panels out, but the lids are the problem. The stationary lid and the moveable lid will cost \$120, the domed top will be another \$120 and will cost about \$250 to replace the tops. Helen Lekavich suggested making garbage cans out of recycled materials. This could be possible to get us started until we have some money. Karen Kreis then noted that we have some money and was going to use the money to purchase garbage cans that had a smoking receptacle, which cost about \$240 each. She noted that businesses could be a sponsor for the garbage cans. Sue Smith commented that we will be receiving the smoker's boxes for a pole or they can be attached to the garbage can at no charge. She further noted when the ash trash is together, people are more likely to contaminate underneath garbage cans and is better to have the smoker's boxes separate. The Cigarette Litter Prevention Program has money and will provide the receptacles for cigarette butts and are free. She explained the various places the receptacles could be placed. There was a long discussion on obtaining the individual pocket receptacles through a grant. Helen Lekavich noted that the personal receptacles have been very well used since most people did not realize how many cigarettes they threw out the window until they emptied the receptacles themselves.

Signage – Thank you for not littering signs – Kristen Ramirez provided a copy of the sign, which is on order and should be here next week. There are 30 signs and each sign is 24" x 18" and were ordered. We also ordered the 7' green post to mount the signs. There was a long discussion on where to put the signs throughout the Village. Public Works will assist in installing the signs, as well as the cigarette receptacles.

Helen asked about dog waste bags and how it would factor into the program. Sue Smith advised that they are part of the program if we have designated dog parks, but since we do not have designated dog parks, it would be considered to be educational.

Karen Kreis noted that the Great American Cleanup will replace Clean Up Day. Superintendent Sparrey commented that we start cutting grass in April and they have to clean up the grass areas. He was hoping that we could get out there earlier to do the cleanup. Karen Kreis advised that this year's Great American Cleanup will begin on the first day of Spring, March 20, 2019. She believed there were two issues, and the first one is litter and the second is recycling. Helen had suggested competitions for things like number of bags of trash collected, pounds of trash or other competitions. Sue Smith noted that KAB has a formula for a bag of trash and how much it weighs, so only a baggage count will be necessary. This is included in the dashboard. The trash can be split so that trash and recycling are separated. She suggested colored bags (example would be a yellow bag and a blue bag). Rita Sareny then noted that recyclables picked up off the streets are all contaminated unless someone is going to rinse out the items. When in doubt, throw it out. There was discussion on the types of cleanup to include garbage, recycling and electronic recycling. Karen Rozmus explained the recycling days and types of recycling they had in Oak Park. Advertising for the programs was done in the newsletter. She further advised that Cook County is trying to set up permanent drop off sites and will advise when she hears the results. There was a long discussion on when the Clean Up Day will take place. After a long discussion, Karen Kreis noted that our Clean Up Day will focus on litter and recycling and will be held on April 27th. Everyone will meet at Public Works at 8:30 a.m.

Helen Lekavich suggested various prize incentives for the competitive kids, teens and adults and the Committee agreed. Rita Sareny suggested flyers be created for the Cleanup. There was a long discussion on the content of the flyers. Karen Kreis then explained about the brochures that both she and Helen Lekavich had created explaining about the program. Sue Smith was impressed with our brochures and commented that Midlothian is on fire about Keep Midlothian Beautiful. Helen further explained that the brochures had one picture for the day we became an affiliate but as we do things, like our Great American Cleanup, it will feature different people and different events and will evolve with progress.

Karen Kreis then explained the activities in the past on Clean Up Day. All the schools, kids and adults can participate. Sue Smith provided a list of the resources that are available. She noted that Keep America Beautiful is the most sharing community of people and are happy to give you their program. Make it ours and don't reinvent the wheel. Helen then asked that everyone share the postings we have on Facebook since our story is in chronological order so anyone who wants to see what we have been doing can browse through our story. Kristen will provide a new and improved flyer for the Great American Cleanup.

There was a long discussion on what kind of projects the students could be working on to participate. Karen Rozmus advised that she worked with a group of Cub Scouts in Oak Park that participated in the clean up of almost two miles on both sides of the street. The businesses sponsored snacks and food and even opened up their bathrooms for those participating. The business community loved it.

Kristen Ramirez noted that thanks to Rita Sareny, who contacted our current Republic Services contractor, the representative sent website information regarding recycling and changes that has or will occur. It is very difficult and expensive. She asked the representative to come to a KMB meeting next month to discuss recycling and its changes. Karen Rozmus advised that in Oak Park, she would meet with all garbage haulers to discuss the garbage and recycling changes. Sue Smith noted that when the contracts are negotiated, they should include a line item for education. It is easy for a waste hauler to provide data and information, but they are not educators, we are.

Update from School District 143 – They met with the Deans and we will be having three Ecology Clubs, meeting once a week to focus on litter and its effect. As the weather starts warming up, they will go outside at the end of their meetings and do cleanup around each of the schools. They also talked about

the Poster Contest and will tie it together with Great Midlothian Cleanup Day. Recognition will be given and not a prize, since the students do not need prizes for everything they enter into and can push recognition. The theme could be "If you see it, pick it up". There were a number of incentives suggested by everyone. Karen Kreis advised that the students could also be recognized at the Board Meeting with Certificates.

Although this is premature, we will have the KMB Executive Director go to the block parties to discuss "Green Block Parties". The Block Party Form will be revised.

Tool Set Kits will be put together to include a shovel, rake, garbage bags and latex gloves and people could check them out and return them at the end of the year. Before and after pictures could be taken and at the end of the year the tool sets would be returned. A deposit could be charged since they are borrowing the kits for a certain timeframe. It was suggested that the kits include safety vests with Keep Midlothian Beautiful on the back or volunteer. Everyone thought that was a great idea.

Motion to purchase safety vests not to exceed \$200 was made by Superintendent Sparrey and seconded by Chris Parker.

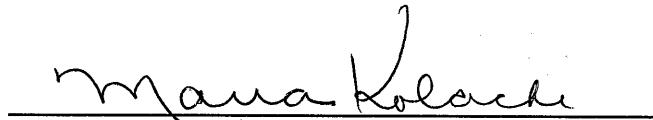
Discussion: There was no further discussion.

Roll Call: Ayes: All in Favor. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The next Keep Midlothian Beautiful Meeting will be Thursday, February 21st at 12:00 p.m. There will be a presentation on recycling and will focus on the Great Midlothian Cleanup.

Motion to adjourn the Keep Midlothian Beautiful Meeting was made by Jerry Gillis, Sr. and seconded by Joe Sparrey. The meeting adjourned at 1:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Maria Kolacki
Deputy Clerk