



Board Meeting Minutes

November 4, 2010 Called to order at 7:05p

Board Members Present:

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chris Voss, Pres. Elect | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Lipsett, Past Pres. | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paula Brennecke, Secy. | <input type="checkbox"/> John Howell, Treas. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Faye Wedell, member |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Don Brennecke, member | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cathy Cox, member | <input type="checkbox"/> Lisbeth Echeandia, member |

Guests: Kathryn Baecht and Alan Richard

Treasurer's Report _____

John out of town. Should be no change from \$528.34.

Secretary's Report _____

Approved as distributed via e-mail

Reports _____

Hope Community Garden(s) – Chris reported for the ad hoc exploration committee. He, Alan, and Scott met with David McLure of Habitat to visit the potential sites. A lot on Elm off 56 (across from the old Orchelin's) seems best. The ground is good sized and level. No water, but we might get permission to do a rain catchment off the laundramat roof next door (owned by Bob Nunnelee), or maybe the city would contribute at least a water meter if not provide water. Needs: water, funding for a fence, mowing tall grass (city do?), to set up an organizational meeting with potential gardeners. We agreed that, once organized, the gardener members should take responsibility.

Alan and Chris will meet with Corby Alexander to see what we might hope for from the city, and to learn what permits, if any, are required. Paula will get a packet to Alan with literature (CORE and Local Food brochures, the Hope Gardens info sheet, and business cards).

Because the site is in/near a black community, we decided to contact Cecil Jones, Judge Joe Dale, and Doris McCullough for an entre into the community.

Cathy reminded us of an e-mail she sent to the board with grant possibilities. Faye suggested Gardeners.com. Someone also suggested the Texas Dept. Of Ag.

[side comment: When the now vacant Braum's was mentioned as being near the site, Paula brought up the possibility the building might serve us as a commercial kitchen and co-op store.]

[Micki is out sick, so there was no report from that garden.]

Proposed Lower Bois d/Arc Reservoir – Chris showed us – and read excerpts from – the documents Lisbeth was able to find relative to any agreement(s) on the proposed reservoir. They didn't seem to clarify much, but did list FC communities included in a new FC Municipal Utility District ("water board"?) We decided to talk with Tammy Rich (before she leaves office) to see what she can find for us. [Was anyone assigned to do that?] Also, Scott will call the Rysers to see if they can help us get up to speed on the issue. [continues]

Keystone XL Pipeline – Chris is putting together a short slide show (< 10 mins) for a presentation, before the Films & Forums showing, at the November 6th general meeting. We discussed how we can find out exactly where the pipeline would cross Fannin County. Two ideas: Texas Railroad Commission and precinct 3 commissioner Dwayne Strickland. Cathy will contact Dwayne.

Paula created a “Pipeline” page on our website, and will add a link to Keystone’s site.

Old Business

General Meeting, November 6th – We discussed the need to keep the business meeting and the pipeline presentation as brief as reasonable. To save time, Paula will print copies of the Treasurer’s report and the last general meeting minutes to put on a table for those interested.

Voting will take place at the sign-in table, which Faye volunteered to coordinate.

We agreed to meet at 6:00 to set up. Nathan will drop off the projection equipment for Don to bring. Paula has the DVD. Cathy will bring popcorn. Don/Paula will bring coffee, tea, mugs, condiments, and popcorn sacks.

After showing “The Future of Food” we’ll show the CSA segment from the second disc. Gene Marshall will lead a follow-up conversation to process what we saw.

New Business

Wilderness Society’s (TWS) request for our support – TWS has composed a letter to Reid, Pelosi, McConnell, and Boehner requesting that they “... prioritize the consideration of pending legislation [lots of bills!] affecting America’s citizens, our communities, public lands and waters.” So far they have gotten a very long list of organizations to ‘sign on’ to the letter, and asked that we sign on also. We discussed concern about voicing support for so many bills that we know, basically, nothing about. Finally, based on many years of trust for TWS, and the low level of support requested, we voted to sign on to the organization’s letter. Paula will respond to TWS by the November 5th deadline.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:45p

Respectfully submitted:



Paula D. Brennecke, Secretary