

**AFFEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MINUTES, 1/12/06**

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 7:20 p.m. Board members in attendance were: Larry Kivela, Julia Chambers, Sidney Shaw, Laura Lyons, Rebecca Fox, Dave Hall, and Pat Willick. Also sort of in attendance and providers of fantastic cookies were Sid's adorable kids!

CURRENT BUSINESS

- 1) Approve Agenda: All in favor and approved.
- 2) Approve Minutes from 11/3/05: All in favor and approved.
- 3) Persons seeking information or presenting matters to be considered: N/A

NEW BUSINESS

1) **Correspondence** - All board members signed the Consent In Lieu of Meeting of Board of Directors to re-elect directors and to approve the purchase of website software.

2) **Treasurer's Report**

- a) **Status of Accounts:** See attached treasurer's report.
- b) **Authorize Payment of Bills:** All in favor and approved.

3) **Projects, Programs, & Activities:**

a) **General Recycling in Mason County** - Sid suggested AFFEW develop a recycling info brochure to distribute at events, have available at the library, etc. The Board brainstormed updates to add to our current list, and Pat and Sid will develop an updated list, with Larry's help in developing the brochure layout.

b) **Household Battery Recycling** - Batteries Plus in Holland is not currently accepting any more household batteries. Pat has found a place in Brighton that recycles batteries at 85¢/pd, and an additional \$350 if we want them picked up. The Board explored other options, such as Safety Kleen, which Sid will investigate. Julia is also encouraging Steve Begnoche at the Ludington Daily News to write an article about household battery waste to urge people to consider rechargeable batteries. Dave Hall will also be writing a rant about this issue for the paper as well. Pat suggested we consider asking for corporate and community agency donations to help us pay to get the mega-pounds of batteries recycled that AFFEW as collected and are currently piling up in Pat's garage.

c) **Rain Garden** - Rebecca reports that it's complete and seems to be withstanding our mild winter thus far.

d) **River Monitoring** - Rebecca may be able to do this in the spring, but really would appreciate extra help. Sid suggested some area groups that might be interested in such a project.

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e) **Beach Monitoring** - Julia announced that it's time to give this up due to lack of participation from the community. AFFEW will still do the April, July, and September sweeps, but the monthly monitoring will end. Sid again expressed confidence that there are groups who would help with this, too, such as Boy/Girl Scouts, and he welcomes any other ideas of those who might help, and he'll check with these organizations to encourage them to participate.

f) **Family Affair** - March 18th from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at MCC Middle School. Sid will coordinate a booth for AFFEW at this event. We'll have a Volunteer Opportunity sign-up list at the booth. We'll also look at getting a new 6x3 banner to display at this event and for future events. Laura will talk with Barber Signs, who made our Earth Day banner, about making an AFFEW banner.

g) **Asian Carp** - Barry Matthews had considered coordinating a presentation on this invasive species problem, but apparently that's not something he can do anytime in the near future.

h) **Phonebook Listing re: Recycling** - Cathy Baker volunteered to look into getting AFFEW a listing under "Recycling," but Julia hasn't heard from her on this.

i) **Website** - The AFFEW website needs to be updated, which Larry and Julia will work on later this month. Rebecca asked that Rain Garden info be posted there, as this is a requirement of the Rain Garden grant's mandate.

j) **Grants** - AFFEW may want to include the household battery recycling project as part of a grant. Pat will check to see when the grants are due that are given by local grantors such as Dow, Community Foundation, and Great Lakes Energy.

8) Other

a) **Rebecca has been nominated** for the Ludington Daily News Citizen Who's Made a Difference. Julia graciously nominated her, and rightly so!

b) **Alternative Energy Fair** - The fair will be held June 16-18 at the Onekama Fairgrounds. We'll promote it in the newsletter.

Next meeting date and time: March 2, 2006, 7 p.m., at Pat Willick's home.

ADJOURN: The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.