

AISWCD Quarterly Board Meeting
Urban and Community Conservation Focus Area Committee
Monday, June 9, 2014 3:00 pm
Northfield Inn Conference Center – Springfield, IL

Present:

Don Beisiegel
Joe Bybee, IDOA
Daniel Doedtman
Gerard Fabrizio, Co-Chairperson
Gina Bean, AISWCD, Minute Recorder
Renea Hildebrandt, IDNR
Jerry Snodgrass, Co-Chairperson
Kelly Thompson, AISWCD
Kara Downin, ISWCDEA

Absent:

Lee Bunting
Chris Davis, IEPA
Don McCallon, NRCS

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm.

2. Roll Call: Done by Gina Bean, AISWCD

3. Approve Agenda:

First: Don Beisiegel

Second: Jerry Snodgrass

Carried: Yes

4. Approval of December '13 FAC Meeting Minutes:

Kara Downin wanted to add that Keith Livesay was at the meeting in February in place of her representing ISWCDEA.

First: Jerry Snodgrass

Second: Dan Doedtman

Carried: Yes

5. Old Business

IUM Update

Matthew Hanauer will be replacing Kelly Thompson when she takes over the AISWCD Executive Director position. He is currently in Indiana working on a 319 Grant so he will only be part time starting in July. August 1, he will be at the office full time. He will be at Summer Conference for individuals to meet him. While at AISWCD he will be doing watershed planning and updating the IUM.

Adopt a Legislator Update

Gerard Fabrizio reported that he might have plans down the road to partner with the Farm Bureau and their Adopt a Legislator. Jerry Snodgrass brought up the idea of not partnering with Farm Bureau. He suggested that AISWCD adopt their own Legislator and that they do not need a partner. Gerard suggested that the group revisit this topic after summer conference when Kelly Thompson has had time to get situated in her new position.

2014-Legislative Tour – Northern Illinois Update

Gerard Fabrizio reported that he thinks the tour will take place. The date is September 15, 2014 at Creek Bend Nature Center in St. Charles, IL. He let the group know that Creek Bend was generous enough to waive the rental fee for the facility. He has two Legislators that will help

promote the event which are IL State Senator Karen McConaughay and IL State Representative Stephanie Kifowit. Attendees will visit three to five sites and will be shown urban practices. The AISWCD State Board of Directors are all invited to attend. Five to six Field Moms will be attending. Gerard stressed the importance of their attendance letting everyone know that they blog often and get the word out. Save the dates will be in the mail later this month.

Kara Downin said she will discuss this event at ISWCDEA's Winter Training. She hopes it will excite other Districts into doing events similar to the one in St. Charles, IL.

6. New Business

IDOA – Joe Bybee

Joe Bybee reported on the meeting he attended May 21, 2014. Bud Bridgewater and Jim Miles were in attendance. It was the first time the entire group (IEPA & SWCD NPDES Phase II Stormwater Inspection Program) was able to meet with IEPA. Joe also reported that there will be a two hour program at Winter Training and there will be a two hour CPESC training session as well.

Joe Bybee also spoke about the Community Gardens that Mike Rahe has on the Illinois State Fairgrounds. There are approximately 150 plots and about half of the plots are reserved for organic planting.

IDNR – Renea Hildebrandt

Renea Hildebrandt started her report by thanking Kelly Thompson for her work on the Field Manual. She then told the committee about grant possibilities. The first was the Landscape Scale Projects. It is open to everyone and is focused on the bigger picture. It is an opportunity to work on the region. Now is a good time to apply. Renea will contact Kelly with more information. It is based on public land and regional land. The other grant is the Urban Forestry Community Grant. The funds will be available if the Department moves forward.

7. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.

First: Don Beisiegel

Second: Dan Doedtman

Carried: yes

Minutes taken by: Gina Bean, AISWCD Office Assistant