

Town of Porter
Environmental Sustainability Commission
Meeting Minutes
June 18, 2024
Porter Town Hall

- A. Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Reggie Korthals Chair-Person**
- B. Moment of Silence**-Korthals mentions we lost one of our board members last week David Rowley and would like to give a moment of silence for him.

C. Pledge of Allegiance

D. Roll Call

Present: Tara Duffie, Reggie Korthals, Jennifer Dimitroff, and Devin Throw

Absent: Allison Hultman and Isabel Durkin

Also, Present: Tammie Sufana, Recording Secretary

E. Consideration of Minutes-May 21, 2024

Tara Duffie made a motion to approve the minutes of May 21, 2024, Devin Throw seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

F. Old Business-

Town of Porter Fishing Derby-Korthals comments Fishing Derby at Indian Springs Park a success! We had 46 kids signed up for the event, 41 actually showed up, and they were able to land 24 fish (23 bluegill and 1 crappie) over the 90 minute derby. Prizes were awarded for the top 3 longest fish in each age category (8 and younger, 9 and older), as well as a prize for the first fish caught and most fish caught.

After working up an appetite fishing, our junior anglers and their chaperones made quick work of over 125 hotdogs, chips, lemonade, cookies and other snacks. Thank you again to Crazy Legs Race Series, BF&S, Reggie Korthals, The Northwest Indiana Steelheaders, the Town of Porter Stormwater Board, and the Town of Chesterton Stormwater Utility for supplying a wonderful array of prizes, snacks, and monetary donations. Also a huge thank you to the Porter Volunteer Firefighters and Porter Public Works Employees that were on site to help with setup/tear down, and untangling an ungodly amount of fishing line/treed rods!

G. NEW BUSINESS

Report from the Chairman-Korthals states we are an advisor group for Town council. Our goal is to present to Council and they decide if they want to use it.

Report from Committees

1. Code & Ordinance Reviews & Recommendations-Korthals comments Hultman has a first draft of the Stormwater Management Ordinance they should send to council to town council. (See attached) Korthals states you all do a nice job and she doesn't want to see it get stopped at backdoor. Sufana asked if everyone had seen the document being she was given a copy until time of meeting. Korthals replies yes it is the same thing Allison Hultman emailed that everyone has seen and commented on.
Devin Throw made a motion to send to Town Council, Jennifer Dimitroff seconded. Motion passed 4-0.
2. Pollinator Garden Presentation- Dimitroff showed a power point on Pollinator Gardens. She would like to see a Pollinator Garden Trail around area like the 3 dune Challenge. She has started two and working on third pollinator gardens in town. Augsburg Church, Hageman Library, and trying to work with Yost, the principal would like native landscape all around the school. The only thing you need to truly transform your community is relentless incremental improvements. Duffie comments so loves the idea and it is cohesive with comprehensive Plan. She recommends talking to Brian at Parks Department, Jay at Fire Department seeing if you we could start one in either department or both. Korthals mentions making a map for trail, and she will see about bringing the idea to Council at the meeting on August 13.

H. Reporting to Town Council-Korthals comments sending the recommendation for Town Council to consider the new Stormwater Management Ordinance. If we are going to get turned down the public will know.

I. Comments from Floor-Jennifer Klug, 200 Franklin St Apt B, comments the board is doing a good job getting the information out to the public.
Duffie asks Throw if he can write up a list of sources for help and upcoming events. Throw will have the list for July.

Korthals ask Duffie if she could have the recommendation for lawn ordinance ready for July meeting. Throw will work on the recommendation for invasive species ordinance. Duffie suggests the board slow down a little bit we have done quite a bit and we are a volunteer board.

Korthals mentions if you are available we will have a table at 4th of July at Hawthorne.

Adjournment- 8:09 pm

Tara Duffie, Vice Chair-Person

Jennifer Dimitroff

Allison Hultman

Tammie Sufana, Recording Secretary