

**Town of Porter
Environmental Sustainability Commission
Meeting Minutes
July 16, 2024
Porter Town Hall**

A. Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Tara Duffie Vice Chair-Person

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Roll Call

Present: Tara Duffie, Jennifer Dimitroff, Allison Hultman and David Phillips

Absent: Devin Throw and Isabel Durkin

Also, Present: Tammie Sufana, Recording Secretary, and Laura Madigan Town Council President

D. Consideration of Minutes-June 18, 2024

Allison Hultman made a motion to approve the minutes of June 18, 2024, Dave Phillips seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

E. Old Business-

Stormwater Ordinance Recommendations-Duffie is looking to rescind the vote to send ordinance to Town Council.

Dimitroff made a motion to rescind the vote to send ordinance to Town Council, Hultman seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Hultman sent her recommendations to Mr. Barry and he made some comments (see attached). He color coded items that are covered in Stormwater Technical Standards Manual, MS4 program, Town's SWQMP, and great idea. The commission discussed document and Hultman will see if she can meet with Mr. Barry to discuss commission thoughts.

Pollinator Garden Plan for Porter-Update-Hageman Library garden is in and they are working on getting a permanent sign with QR codes on it for Indiana Native Plant Society on. They are also planning to certify with National Wildlife Certification. Duffie mentions that was a really good presentation she did on pollinator gardens at last meeting. Duffie also mentions that they would like to ask council to go after grants in the fall. Yost project is not an ESC project. Duffie mentions the only reason she wants to continue with Yost is she wants to start a Pollinator Garden Trail. Volunteers are not coming through like they said they would. Dimitroff mentions Yost is a big project that she needs help with.

Madigan mentions she spoke with Town Attorney about open door laws, this is an exclusive advisory committee. The members answer to Town Council President and you can do back ground work outside of public meeting.

F. NEW BUSINESS

Plastic Free July-Porter County Recycling-is a Global and National thing to help promote awareness. Porter County adopted a section of it last year they tried to get business to do it. The least we can do is help promote it and have everyone take the challenge.

Porter County is trying to do less straws and utensils.

Duffie mentions Dr. Julie Pellar, Plastic Reduction Alliance of Porter County, reducing plastic uses helps health and education for residents is important.

Resource Spreadsheet-Duffie mentions that Throw is creating a digital spreadsheet/pamphlet of resources for board or residents. Phillips mentions he has two groups to add to it. Friends of Dunes, and Crazy Legs they do beach cleanup four times a year. There will be two coming up July 28, and August 25.

G. Comments from Floor-Dimitroff mentions she got Brian from Parks department involved with SICIM(State Indiana Cooperative Invasive Management) and that next spring they will do a weed wrangle.

Jennifer Klug, 200 Franklin St Apt B, comments neighbors have a community garden at library.

Duffie welcomes Phillips. Phillips mentions he is excited to be on commission.

Duffie mentions the commission needs to take things slow and do one project at a time.

Adjournment- 8:05 pm

Tara Duffie, Chair-Person

Jennifer Dimitroff

Devin Throw, Secretary

Isabel Durkin

David Phillips

Mitch Reynolds

Tammie Sufana

Recording Secretary