

Persons Present:

- Nick
- Ellie
- David
- Jen
- Elizabeth
- Bahieh (Staff)
- Leah (Staff)
- Karen (presenting, from Lower Mississippi River Watershed Management Organization)
- Kali (presenting, from Riverview Library)

-Intros

-Overview of happenings since last meeting:

- Ellie outreach update

-Inclusive financing

- Program to reduce barriers to home energy efficiency upgrades for renter and low income folks
- Upgrades must cause electric bill to lower, then financing payment added to electric bill. Ultimate bill still lower than before upgrades
- Tied to meter, financing stays with house/ apartment id person moves
- Funding mechanism- need bank
- http://www.communitypowermn.org/what_is_inclusive_financing

Motion to send letter of support for Inclusive Financing to July WSCO board meeting for approval.

Motion approved

-Air Quality Monitors

- Bahieh met with Bjorn from Environmental Initiative
- Discussed placing Community Owned Air quality monitoring devices near Port area to monitor more broadly for pollutants impacting human health

Motion to support Bahieh furthering the discussion with Bjorn regarding Community Owned Air Monitoring equip.

Motion Approved

Action Item: Bahieh will contact Bjorn

-Volkswagon Settlement

- MN receiving large amount of funds as part of Volkswagon Settlement (diesel fuel deception)

- State reps (including Carlos Mariani) writing letter to folks allocating the funds requesting that funds are spent helping vulnerable populations, urban areas and valleys.
- What else can HEJ do to support funds in the area
 - Meet with PCA officials? Suggestion from Bjorn

Motion to send letter of support for Mariani Letter re: Volkswagon Settlement to July WSCO board meeting for approval.

Motion approved

-Sustainable To-Go Ordinance

- Ordinance before city council would require Businesses within city limits to use recyclable, compostable or reusable containers for to-go food
- What suppliers are available for purchase of containers
- What support will there be for businesses during transition
- Expense difference? Bulk order opportunities
- LAST public meeting before vote will be July 19th
- City vote occurring at end of July

Action Item: Bahieh will send email to group RE: meetings, documents and vote date

Motion to send letter of support for Sustainable To-Go Ordinance to July WSCO board meeting for approval.

Motion approved

-Karen Reed (Lower Mississippi River Watershed Organization)

- LMWO joining Master Water Stewards Program
- Org works on water and runoff issues
 - Opportunities to get community involved w/ projects
- Working on a couple projects concerning West Side
 - Upper Cherokee Heights Ravine Stabilization Projects
 - Brickyard

Action Item: Leah will follow up with Karen regarding potential Master Water Stewards recruitment

-Kali Freeman (Nature Smart Library Program)

- Nature Smart is new program aiming to get kids connected to nature with in the neighborhood (no need to go to preserve etc)
 - Nature backpacks
 - Natural space
 - Programming (Nature Smart Explorers)
 - Tuesdays 1-2 pm
- Part of Cities Connecting Children to Nature Implementation Plan

- Can partner with HEJ

Action Item: Leah will get Kali fliers for HEJ meetings and advertise NatureSmart through WSCO media

-Further Outreach Plans

- Phone bank
- Leah contact YouthFarm

Action Item: Bahieh will contact folks re: potential phone bank times

Action Item: Leah will contact YouthFarm

-Closing