

Public Involvement/Public Education (PIPE) Meeting
Meeting Minutes for April 20, 2010

Committee Members Present:

Marilyn Carrick, Perry Township; Rachel Lewis, Stark County Regional Planning (RPC); John Masalko, Perry Township; Bethany Perkowski, Stark County Health Department; Joni Poindexter, Jackson Township; Mary Reno, Jackson Township; Dave Ruwadi., Jackson Township; Malia Watkins, RPC

Members of the General Public Present:

Kevin Ellis

The meeting commenced at 10:05 a.m. with a welcome by Watkins and since there was no comment from the general public, discussion proceeded to item three on the agenda.

Reno notified the committee that the rain garden workshop will be held at Jackson north Park on May 8th, from 9 to noon. Dave verified that the rain garden site will be prepped and ready for planting by that date. He also noted that Rohrer's Nursery has agreed to donate the plants for the garden. Watkins informed the group that she had a basic rain garden presentation available from the Stark Soil and Water Conservation District, which she can present at the workshop, but that Stark Parks is not able to help present at this time. Dave asked if they could get a sign to place at the garden so people will know what it is when they walk past it. Poindexter agreed that including any sponsors' name on the sign would be a good idea too.

Mr. Ellis, a public attendee from the City of Louisville asked what the purpose was of the rain garden, in which Dave gave a brief explanation of. Ellis suggested that the media be invited to the workshop, to which Watkins noted that the media had all been sent press releases regarding the gardens. Ellis also mentioned notifying local nurseries about the workshop. Reno said that they were going to have it posted on Massillon Cable in addition to putting it up on various websites and calendars' of events. Perkowski offered to also post a flyer on the Health Department's website.

Reno asked if handouts would be available at the workshop. Watkins volunteered to put together a folder containing pertinent information about the rain gardens and any other information that the various agencies would like to add to it.

Moving on to item four of the agenda, Watkins played a demo of the radio advertisement that will be introducing the new stormwater mascot, Clawd, to the general public. Carrick asked if she could post the ad on their website, which Watkins said that she will look into that further regarding the technology specifications.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.