

**MINUTES**  
**Ad Hoc Clean Air Counts Advisory Committee**  
**December 1, 2008**  
**Municipal Complex, 100 W. Woodstock Street, Crystal Lake, IL**

**I. Call to Order**

City staff Mitchell began the meeting at 7:04 p.m. on December 4, 2008, at the Municipal Complex in Crystal Lake.

**II. Roll Call/Attendance**

Introductions of Committee members and other attendees were conducted. Present were the following Committee members: Pat Dieckhoff, Steve Fuller, Linda Gaska, Elizabeth Puchmelter (arrived later in the meeting) and Pauline Walker. Kim Hankins and Lehn Shepherd were absent. Also present were City Councilmember Ralph Dawson, John Pletz, Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce Green Business Task Force, Eberhard Veit and Brad Mitchell, Assistant to the City Manager.

**III. Appointment of Temporary Chair**

Member Fuller moved to elect Member Dieckhoff as Temporary Chair for the December 1, 2008 regular meeting. Member Walker seconded the motion. On voice vote, all voted aye. Motion passed.

**IV. Public Comment**

There was no one in the public who wished to speak.

**V. Approval of Minutes of the November 3, 2008 Regular Meeting**

Member Gaska moved to approve the minutes of the November 3, 2008 regular meeting. Member Fuller seconded the motion. On voice vote, all voted aye. Motion passed.

**VI. Clean Air Counts Participation Status**

**a. Participation Level Discussion**

The Committee reviewed the requirements needed for meeting the silver participation level status discussed at the November 3, 2008 regular meeting.

**b. Newsletter Articles**

City staff Mitchell stated that Member Fuller submitted an article for the December 2008/January 2009 City newsletter and that it should be later in the month. The deadline for the February/March 2009 City newsletter is early January 2009. Member Fuller suggested writing on the bronze level status, idling, shopping local and benefits of planting a tree. Member Fuller suggested making the next article for the newsletter a "green" theme for St. Patrick's Day. Member Walker suggested putting information about biking to work. Temporary Chair Dieckhoff stated that she received several inquiries from Crystal Lake residents about the Green Guide after it was mention in the last City newsletter and asked if information on the Green Guide could be included in future newsletters.

- **Member Fuller will submit an article in early January 2009 for the February/March 2009 City newsletter.**

**c. Lawncare Buyback/Gas Can Replacement Program**

City staff Mitchell distributed Member Puchmelter's draft proposal for a gas can replacement event. Committee members reviewed the proposal and provided suggestions to Member Puchmelter. Temporary Chair Dieckhoff suggested contacting Groot to get information on their services for recycling gas cans and disposing of old gas. Member Puchmelter will contact Groot, get the cost for the new gas cans, and contact the Clean Air Counts Campaign about possible funding. Member Walker inquired about what kind of gas cans the City use. City staff Mitchell will follow-up. Member Walker also stated that the City should consider using electric mowers. Member Fuller moved to continue discussion on this matter to the January regular meeting. Member Walker seconded the motion. On voice vote, all voted aye. Motion passed.

- **Member Puchmelter will contact Groot regarding their recycling and disposal services, get the cost for the new gas cans, and contact the Clean Air Counts Campaign about possible funding.**

**d. Website**

City staff Mitchell stated that the City hopes to have the new website up in early 2009.

**e. Bicycle Path Program**

Temporary Chair Dieckhoff suggested that the bicycle path sub-committee meet. Member Walker stated that the City should plow the bike paths to encourage bicyclists and pedestrians to use the path during the winter months. Councilmember Dawson stated that at the November 18, 2008 City Council meeting he asked if the City could plow the bike/pedestrian path along Main Street from Jewel to Crystal Lake Avenue if the McHenry County Conservation District would not do so. Mr. Veit discussed his letter to the City Council suggesting bicycle/pedestrian access be included in the Vulcan Lakes plan and encouraged the Committee to write a similar letter. Councilmember Dawson provided a brief status of the Vulcan Lakes plan. Member Pauline moved to defer discussion on a letter to the City Council regarding Vulcan Lakes until the January meeting. Member Gaska seconded the motion. On voice vote, all voted aye. Motion passed. Member Puchmelter stated that she was approached with a question about what the Clean Air Counts Committee is doing with the City to get bike paths. Member Walker suggested promoting a one-day biking event in Crystal Lake. Temporary Chair Dieckhoff mentioned that there was a national bike/walk to school day that maybe the Committee could plan, with the McHenry County Bike Club, an event on that day. Councilmember Dawson stated that while visiting Montpelier, Vermont he witnessed an event where bicyclists rode by art made of out of bicycle parts.

- **The bicycle sub-committee will meet.**

**f. Idling**

City staff Mitchell stated that he is coordinating with Public Works on making the no-idling signs for the schools, but needs the total number of signs that will need to be made. City staff Mitchell will contact Larry O’Meara to get more information.

- **City staff Mitchell will contact Larry O’Meara about the no-idling signs for school districts 47 &155.**

**g. Business Development**

Member Gaska presented the Gantt Chart for Business Development. The Gantt Chart identifies the strategies and goals and measurements of success to achieve the silver and gold participation levels. Member Fuller thanked Member Gaska for developing this tool for the Committee to utilize. Member Gaska will revise the Gantt Chart to reflect the correct number of requirements needed for both the silver level participation status and gold level participation status. Member Puchmelter asked Mr. Pletz about the status of the Green Business Task Force involvement with the business community. Mr. Pletz explained that it is an evolving process and that they are seeking new membership. Also, the Green Business Task Force received a boost after completing an assessment for the Shah Center.

**VII. Open Discussion**

Member Fuller thanked the City Council for endorsing the Clean Car Act and the submittal of the bronze level status application.

Member Puchmelter inquired whether the Committee was going to write a letter to the Chamber suggesting that partners for mixers should provide means for recycling during the event. Mr. Pletz stated that the Green Business Task Force approached this matter and was told that since the individual business were paying for the mixer, it was up to the business to provide means for recycling or not. Temporary Chair Dieckhoff stated that the Committee should just encourage businesses to recycle.

**VIII. Next Meeting Date**

The Committee agreed that the next meeting date will be January 5, 2009.

**IX. Adjourn**

There being no further business, Member Walker moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 p.m. Member Fuller seconded the motion. On voice vote, all voted aye. Motion passed.