

EMG ExComm Minutes January 14, 2020

Present: Ken, John, Glenn, Tim - Caitlin came late

Non excom member- Caroline

1. Reviewed and approved minutes from Dec 2019
2. Received December 2019 end of year statement. Our new treasurer, Robert, has planned with Gretchen.
3. Upcoming programs: January, Pat Justice on electric vehicles. February, The Sunshine movement on the Green New Deal. March is joint meeting with Audubon on Missouri Raptors and will be held at Schlafly Library in Central West End. Caroline will make sure this change is posted. April program is not yet determined, ideas are legislative update (which could be a short piece) ONSR trails program if it is released, or presentation by TREK regarding recycled plastics. May is scheduled to be about Clean MO. Excom needs to decide if we will again have no program in June and July, and if we want one of those to be a dinner.
4. John reported on trails committee, which is has outing trail work scheduled with Lindbergh HS at Hawn State Park.
Glenn reported that he is still working on project at Shaw Arboretum.
Ozark Trail Association is meeting Feb 22 in Echo Bluff. EMG is a member of OTC and trails committee will consider sending someone.
Also, Outings Leader training is scheduled Feb 29.
5. Conservation committee updates: Lots of activity on floodplain development issues. A big win in the defeat of Maryland Hts TIF request. Next steps are working with our allies to create proposals for alternative uses for the 2,200 acres which were targeted for development.
Also, a meeting Feb 11, 7pm at Maryland Hts Community Center to discuss what to do with the land cleared for ill-fated ice rink. We should have a representative at that meeting.
New floodplain related issue in Sunset Hills involves permit to raise level of industrial area which will increase flood risk elsewhere, including Fenton Sewage Treatment plant. Terry Allen, SH resident, is attending as are many other allies. If we want to make this a priority we can do more outreach. Depends on what options are left.
Unfortunately, the issue about zoning variance in OFallon was decided against our position. This involved variance for city tree retention policy, our members and other volunteers were very well organized but alas lost.
6. Energy issue involving Ameren rate increase request. Two local opportunities to tell PSC that you think Ameren should purchase cheaper renewables on the market than ask for rate increase.
7. Legislative committee update. Contact Michael Berg if you want to be added that list. Next monthly call is Feb 7. Big immediate issue is fast tracked bill to put anti-Clean MO issue on August ballot.
8. Next Excom meeting Feb 11.

