

**VILLAGE OF EPHRAIM  
GREEN TIER AD-HOC COMMITTEE WORKING SESSION MINUTES  
THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2024 – 8:00 AM - 9996 WATER STREET**



**Present:** Jeff Lutsey, Michael McCutcheon, Lane Methner, and Cindy Nelson-Chair.

**Absent:** Jeff O'Keefe and Bruce Nelson

**Guests:** None.

**Staff:** Brent Bristol – Village Administrator

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**1. Discussion and update on 2024 Goals:**

A discussion was held on the 2024 Green Tier goals. C. Nelson reported that B. Nelson was working on gathering information about water filling stations. Lutsey reported that he had nothing to update on the energy audits. Lutsey noted that he thought there was an energy and greenhouse gas audit from the DNR Green Tier scoresheet. He asked for the link to the preferred audit information. McCutcheon stressed that the Village would not be doing energy audits on Village buildings only because the Wastewater Department is in the process of a needs assessment with a focus on energy savings. He added that discussions are beginning on a new maintenance building. There is no reason to conduct audits on buildings that will be changing in the next three (3) years. They will be built and/or modified with the latest standards for conserving energy. Bristol discussed that the major energy use in the maintenance building was heat to melt snow and ice during the winter months. He added that he would like to see passive solar on the southern exposure by having windows in non-breakable locations to take advantage of that energy. Methner reported that Stone has not been able to speak with the other Community Coordinators regarding the food pantry magnets for STRs. C. Nelson noted that O'Keefe was handling batteries but that she had been at the Kress Center for Earth Day and found that batteries can be delivered in Green Bay for free recycling. We could collect and deliver to Green Bay. They can be delivered to the [Brown County Resource Recovery Center](#) and they accept a variety of batteries. Locations that were discussed to collect batteries for recycling included the Visitor Information Center, the Administrative Building, the Ephraim Historical Foundation, the Moravian Church, the Ephraim Post Office, and the Ephraim Recycling Center. C. Nelson noted that she would forward the information to Jeff O'Keefe to determine how he wanted to proceed. She also asked if Methner would reach out to EBC folks to see if anyone was interested in having a battery recycling receptacle. Further discussion included the number of receptacles needed.

C. Nelson discussed the Ephraim Wetlands Signage. She noted that she had walked the area and seven (7) posts are still standing but the signage is no longer readable. Two (2) of the signs had pictures online so we were able to recover what was on those. She explained that she was still researching what was on the remaining signs and would report back. She noted that the history explanation sign at the entrance was also missing.

Bristol discussed that the project at the Wetlands would begin on Monday. Maintenance was working on trimming to be ready for the reinstallation of the bridges. He noted that some of the signs indicated plants and trees of interest. He felt a lot of the information may be able to be recreated from the grant applications.

C. Nelson discussed pollinator gardens and Moravia Point. She noted that at the PFU June meeting a proposal would be presented by Jason Miller. She noted that the Clean Marina process is almost complete. Lutsey discussed volunteer help to assist Miller. C. Nelson explained that it will depend on how PFU proceeds.

**2. Discussion about presenting a Green Tier synopsis to the Village Board:**

C. Nelson explained that in the past Lutsey has created a synopsis to present to the Village Board. We've missed a few years and she wondered if it was time to do something again. June is a very busy month for the Board, she felt that the fall might be a better time to get in front of the Board and share goals and accomplishments.

**3. Discussion and update on June 1 – Ephraim Clean-up Day:**

C. Nelson shared that the Board approved the Ephraim Clean-Up Day on June 1.

Methner shared that the flyer will go out to business contacts in the Village as well as their social media channels.

A discussion was held regarding the Clean Up day. Methner suggested the Village send out the flyer to their distribution list. Lutsey felt the associations should be made aware. Bristol stated the flyers were already printed to be posted. Bristol asked about the number of garbage bags to be distributed when people come to pick them up; he suggested kitchen bags. C. Nelson hoped that people would use their own bags from home but if we need to provide them, they should be kitchen-sized bags. She asked everyone to spread the word. Lutsey said it was great to try something new and see what we learn from the event to improve next year. C. Nelson explained that there would be coffee and doughnuts at the Village Hall after and for simplicity she would order them from the Piggly Wiggly. She reviewed that the Board approved one hundred dollars (\$100) for costs associated with the event. Safety vests, brightly colored shirts, or clean-up in progress signs at both ends of the Village were discussed for future events. All clarified that the event will go on rain or shine.

Further discussion occurred regarding removing or banning plastic bags from the County and/or Village and efforts to encourage people to bring their bags. C. Nelson felt that it needed to start somewhere and the obvious place was to start with businesses. Lutsey suggested speaking with Piggly Wiggly to get input on their program. C. Nelson felt a small discount was less effective as opposed to charging for bags. She felt it also should be a countywide discussion.

4. **Next meeting:**

Next meeting date: Thursday, June 6, 2024, at 8:00 AM.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 AM.

Recorded by, Kim Roberts – Deputy Clerk