



**MILTON GROWS GREEN COMMITTEE**  
**JANUARY 9, 2012 MINUTES [APPROVED]**



**Date:** January 9, 2012, 6:30 - 8:10 pm

**Place:** Birmingham Fire Station #43, 750 Hickory Flat Road, Milton, GA 30004

**Attendees:** Jack Lindon, Cindy Eade, Francina Lindon, Jon McPhail, Kathy Johnson, Amy Peters, Julie Pinckney, Angela Thompson, Bruce Langston and Gordon Hunter.

**I. Agenda:** It was posted on the City's web site.

**II. Approval of Minutes:** No minutes were approved.

**III. Announcements & Updates:**

- **Crabapple Form Based Planning Meeting, January 19, 2012** - The meetings are open to the public and are held in City Council chambers. There are 20 people on the committee headed by Kathy Fields. Jack was named to the committee after he asked to be on it and pointed out that Lynn Tully had recognized MGG as a stakeholder before she left.
- **Bring One for the Chipper** - The estimate is that 827 trees were collected. Getting a hard number is a little difficult because the boy scouts were bringing in the trees by the truckload and some came in after the event was closed. Those collected from Milton and deposited at Home Depot weren't accurately counted. This was the first event held with the Young Men's Service League volunteer help. The Alpharetta Rotary Club (contact is Wayne Robinson) donated good-sized redbud and dogwood saplings. They want to be notified of this event next year. The one glitch in the planning came at Scottsdale Farms. Because trees were deposited throughout the previous week, on the day of the event all the space had been taken up. There was no room for more trees and the chipper had to be dispatched to that location first. We were lucky that the Casey Tree crew was at the High School and could be moved quickly. Also need to make sure directional road signs go out ahead of time and the sponsors are thanked.

Gordon was asked about how to identify locations for planting trees around the town. Contacting HOAs was suggested. Timing for planting, during the dormant season, is critical. MGG could coordinate planting with different volunteer groups once locations have been identified. There were questions about digging so many holes, getting utilities marked, providing amended soil. It was suggested MGG just be involved in distribution of saplings.

- **Green Communities Certification** - Cindy and Michele went to the ARC to talk about moving forward, wanted to understand what they are capable of achieving from this point. Right now we have identified about 90 points out of 165 that we have already. The suggestion is to get together with City Council in a workshop setting to reintroduce the idea, show where we are and what ordinances might need to be changed. Bruce thinks communication with the government is a good idea because this definitely has to come from a commitment at the top. There has to be buy in and suggestions need to be specific such as a green roof on a park building, rainwater collection systems at community centers, LEEDs certified school buildings, energy audit done on 10% of City owned buildings, request a second pad for recyclables on commercial buildings, etc. Jack, Cindy and Bruce had a meeting with City Councilman Bill Lusk who has agreed to be sponsor of any resolutions that might be needed. Cindy will e-mail spread sheet out when she's finished on where we are on this and is taking a course to get accredited as green certified.
- **Earth Day Festival (April 21<sup>st</sup>)** - Angela Thompson was introduced as the City's new event planner. Committee planning meeting scheduled tomorrow at noon. Kathy Johnson will be chair but won't have a lot of time for this until after February. She's taking the Bar Exam Feb. 28 in Environmental Law and will be studying until then. Jon committed to getting more environmental builders as


vendors this year, wants a small node "Sustainable Village." Bruce will help him. There might be a way to tie in the builders who will be involved with the Crabapple Form-Based planning to have a role in Earth Day. We also might be able to get points for adding such things as electric car recharging stations. Jon wanted to get in touch with them within the next 10 ten days. Also want to encourage good food and music for people to have a good time. All but one food vendor didn't charged for food last year.

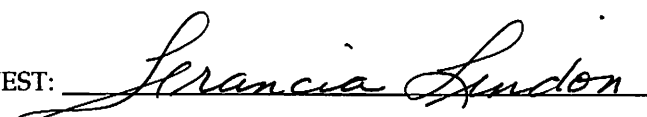
- **Solid Waste Collection** – Cindy now has all of Matt Marietta's files. Amy is willing to help on this. Cindy is going to send a letter to the haulers introducing herself and talking about recycling provisions in the ordinance. She's also working on setting a base line. Some circumstances such as long driveways make sending two trucks difficult. Homeowner could meet hauler half way by getting recyclables up to the mailbox. Two haulers haven't paid any of the franchise fees last year in violation of conditions for their permits.

We need to come up with a creative way to balance the needs of free enterprise with the desires of the community to minimize noise, smell and impact on roads. We need to better understand the business from the hauler's point of view. Does the revenue from recycling offset other expenses? There are maybe 7 residential haulers licensed by the City, 11 if you count those that do commercial only. We have talked about establishing some incentive program to encourage recycling such as a portion of the profits go to a charity of the resident's choice such as the Red Oak model. The other side is to increase recycling by the hauler with some incentives because there is no way to monitor the haulers. Jack wants to set up a meeting with Charlie Slade or Vic Knight, Amy and Cindy. Charlie's new single-stream recycling plant just over the line in Forsyth might provide new and creative ideas.

- **Paint Recycling Day with Boy Scout Troop 3000** – Walter Dean is interested and has arranged to do this February 11<sup>th</sup> as a fundraiser for the Boy Scouts. MGG will provide publicity and some volunteer help on that day. They're doing it with Williams Paint Recycling and will charge \$15 for the first 10 cans. The Boy Scouts get to keep 40% of the money collected plus any donations.
- **Adopt-A-Road** – Twenty-seven roads out of the 41 available had been adopted last year. And this year a letter is going out to see if they want to continue and see if they have scheduled a cleanup. Jon wants the available roads publicized on the City's web page. So far we haven't had to solicit participation. It's strictly a volunteer effort. Roads have to be local roads. State highways have to go through the state. Jack asked about large orange kite-like caution signs to put up when the cleanup is being done. These could also be used when we do the Rivers Alive event.
- **Bulky Trash Amnesty Day (Spring)** – Has been scheduled for March 34<sup>th</sup> with Roswell.
- **Arbor Day (March 17<sup>th</sup> for Milton)** – Mark Law is planning a planting possibly at the Bethwell Community Center. Jon suggested a privet pull along the Little River in Birmingham Park, as privet is an invasive species taking over the area.
- **Waste Management Grant for Earth Day** – Vic talked to Cindy and sent a grant application for \$5,000 available for recycling or cleanup education. It could be used for Earth Day for the educational tent. He has to submit it to the company.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

  
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Jon B. McPhail, Co-chair

ATTEST:   
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Francina Lindon, Secretary