



Sustainability Committee
Monday, July 12th, 2021
1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

Minutes

Zoom

1. Attendees:

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| Dan Taber, P.E. Grand Rapids | Carlos Calderon, WMEAC |
| Wendy Ogilvie, GVMC | Jerry Miller, KDC |
| Jessie Schulte, KCD | Jamie Vaughan, Trout Unlimited |
| Carrie Rivette, P.E. Grand Rapids | Josh Arnold, GVMC |
| Ari Henson, GVMC | Courtney Cromley, GVMC |
| Serena Price, Barry Conservation District | Annabelle Wilkinson, Grand Rapids |
| Cliff Walls, MGROW | |

2. We discussed the results of our EQIP and RCCP Work

- Jesse mentioned that Kent Conservation District (KCD) was working with urban roots, and that their produce safety advisor was a good potential contact for sustainability work. She, along with Carlos, also mentioned that there are some new and remodeled farms to tour and recruit for sustainability. Additionally, KDC is working on attaining more of the EQIP Signup information that was completed during the last signup.
- Annabelle added that reaching out to Alita Kelly would be helpful, she's on the Urban Agriculture Committee at Grand Rapids and is co-owner of Southeast Market. Carlos has been in contact with Alita.
- Jesse discussed the results of the Farmer Field Day. About 60 people showed up and 5 new farmers joined program. The field day was a success, despite inclement weather.

3. Wendy and Courtney explained LGROW's work on the Watershed Resilience Plan – Social Pinpoint

- Social pinpoint is the platform we are using to gather information on what areas in each watershed are vulnerable to climate change via crowdsourcing information.
- Our focus is on the Coldbrook and Indian Mill Creek Watersheds.
- Jerry asked how this information will be published. Wendy and Courtney explained that the website is not currently live but that it will be as soon as the edits to it are finished. The word about it will be spread at events and on newsletters. It is now live: <https://gvmc.mysocialpinpoint.com/resilience-plan>.

- Jessie brought up potentially adding an explanation to what each tag on social pinpoint. The committee discussed various ways to relay this information on social pinpoint. Adding a hyperlink explanation is not an option but adding it under the tag add section is a possibility. Additionally, there was debate over if the term “Urban Sprawl” should be changed. What it should be changed to, if at all, was not decided on.
4. Water Trail work begins
- Wendy explained our plan moving forward in our attempt to get the Lower Grand River as a state designated water trail, and eventually have the entire Grand River nationally designated.
 - Wendy showed the committee the [news video](#) that was created about the Terrain 360 project to create a 3D water-view map of the Lower Grand River.
 - Wendy announced that we will officially be working with the National Park Service, Andrea Irland, on the Water Trail. She will be helping us throughout the project, as she is well experienced with developing water trails and gaining state and national designations.
 - LGROW plans to consult the sustainability committee for advise as the plan continue to develop.