

**VILLAGE OF GRAFTON**  
**SUSTAINABLE GRAFTON AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**JUNE 15, 2010**

The Sustainable Grafton Ad Hoc Committee meeting was called to order at 4:19 p.m. by Chairman Rick Flood.

Members present: Rick Flood, Paul Van de Sand, John Gassert, Pamela Atterberry, Ginny Plumeau, and Roger Kirgues (4:36).

Members Absent: Jim Brunquell and Laura Weber.

Staff/Officials present: Director of Public Works/Village Engineer David Murphy and Administrative Assistant Melissa Depies.

**PERSONS WISHING TO BE HEARD**

None

**MINUTES**

Motion by John Gassert, seconded by Paul Van de Sand, to approve the March 17, 2010, Sustainable Grafton Ad Hoc Committee meeting minutes. Approved unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Sustainability Guide Plan

Rick Flood stated that after several months of work on this plan we are nearing the end. There is one section to review tonight and that is Invasive Species Management. Prior to that review he highlighted a few changes he made in the introduction which credits Burnsville, MN for some of the material within the document.

Mr. Flood also highlighted added language pertaining to grants and funding to support the recommendations of the plan.

Mr. Flood noted that two appendixes have been added to the plan as well, those being the One-2-Five Energy diagnostic report and an Invasive Species Resources guide.

Invasive Species Management:

Ginny Plumeau presented the Invasive Species Management section highlighting the various areas of emphasis. She noted that some changes to the original wording were made to tone down the intent of the recommendations.

## Strategy 1 – Promote Green

John Gassert questioned item D: Annually review target areas, such as along park walkways or trails, right of ways, waterways, high quality areas to be protected from invasive infestation, etc. He would like to incorporate the Town or the County staff to do this as well so that not only Grafton is protected but the neighboring areas as well.

Mr. Gassert then questioned why invasive species were so bad. Ms. Plumeau responded that they take over and reduce our native plants, which in turn reduces plant diversity. Animals and birds rely on that diversity, if the diversity disappears, the animals and birds disappear. Rick Flood stated that diversity is the backbone of the Eco System.

Ms. Plumeau stated that Appendix B is nine pages of resources for information regarding Invasive Species and Funding and Cost Share Programs that are available.

Paul Van de Sand, noted that Integrated Pest Management – Implementation Activities – Strategy 1 – Buy and Promote Green – Item B states: Where feasible, reduce herbicide applications on Village properties. Consider alternatives such as an increase use of mechanical control measures (e.g. mowing). This is not consistent with the Greenhouse Gas section. It was the consensus of the committee that mowing is better and a higher priority than the use of herbicides for control.

Rick Flood stated that this language could be changed to include something like “to reduce herbicide applications”. What we had previously was much stronger language and we needed to tone it down. In spite of Greenhouse Gases mowing is preferred or selective trimming, this is a more targeted approach.

Motion by Roger Kirgues, seconded by John Gassert, to recommend the Village Board adopt the final version of the Sustainability Guide Plan. Approved unanimously.

The next meeting of the Sustainable Grafton Ad Hoc Committee will be held Monday, July 26, 2010, at 4:00 p.m.

Paul Van de Sand presented a fluid called Ferro Fluid that is used in vehicle suspension systems to provide ride quality. The container had a magnet on the bottom to show how the magnet attracts the fluid to one spot. When the magnet was removed the fluid inside dispersed. Mr. Van de Sand stated a presentation had been made to BP to use this to plug and clean the oil spill.

Mr. Van de Sand also noted that he is currently in a competition to create a car that can be operated using only three cylinders and a one liter lithium battery.

**ADJOURN**

Motion by Roger Kirgues, seconded by Paul Van de Sand, to adjourn the meeting at 5:18 p.m. Approved unanimously.