

APPROVED



Elgin Math & Science Academy

Minutes

Environmental Work Group Meeting

Date and Time

Friday October 7, 2022 at 11:30 AM

Location

Dining Hall

1600 Dundee Ave; Elgin, IL 60120

Committee Members Present

C. Flaherty, G. Swick, K. Kelly, S. Bennett

Committee Members Absent

R. Wilson

Guests Present

D. Alexander

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

K. Kelly called a meeting of the Environmental Work Group--Subcommittee to Master Plan and Facilities Committee of Elgin Math & Science Academy to order on Friday Oct 7, 2022 at 11:42 AM.

C.

Approve September 2, 2022 Meeting Minutes

G. Swick made a motion to approve the minutes from Environmental Work Group Meeting on 09-02-22.

C. Flaherty seconded the motion.

The committee **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Environmental Work Group--Subcommittee to Master Plan and Facilities

A. Ecosystem Education

Timing and focus for Friends of the Fox to offer hands-on--D Alexander to discuss with J Willer and discuss at Leadership Team. Can classes study EMSA's pond? The pond across the street? Can we combine this with FFS?

\$15K budget line for FFS, Kayode Kareem was interested in leading the effort. Next steps: discuss at Leadership Team and meet with Kayode. Consider 4th grade for FFS program. Teacher stipend?

Walking trail within EMSA campus--there is a natural walkway that staff, students, families could start using. Next steps: walk with Chris (Kerry, Gary, anyone else?), create maps to share with staff (Sue & Kerry), create little signs for visual guidance, have a kickoff event and/or scavenger hunt (Kerry, anyone else? with JW?)

Forest Preserve--hike along fence line. Next steps: walk with Chris to assess

Ravine nature trail--Chris has begun restoration for potential hiking in ravine; some is accessible already; Chris is willing to help lead students/classes on hikes to learn about invasive species and natives, etc. Next steps: Notify staff of readiness (Kerry via info email), reach out to middle school science teachers (Gary); create volunteer days to help create more trail

B. Educational Spaces, Playgrounds & Natural Play Areas

Gym area play ground--what can we do to make this available space? First--how to make it accessible? Mowing it regularly? Remove soil/plants and resow it for next year--Chris can give us a quote on this; start with "chill" area--we can weedwack to make it available, can kids pull the weeds? Combo with GG cut down and students help with removal. Next steps: Chris & Gary look at space, talk to MS teachers if warranted

Rain barrel is being used at pollinator garden. All done. Is this something that can be expanded? Next steps: keep on radar.

Kindergarten outdoor learning lab, costs from R Wilson's contractor \$2,500-3,000.
\$5,000 might be more realistic. Needs permitting, gate, pillars in concrete. Next steps:
Dan will share plan for fencing & contact fencing contractor, what money board had left
over from its budgeted line item

C. Arbor Day Campus

Centennial Planting through Morten Arboretum--EMSA got a grant for 20 trees plus
direction and assistance CRTRI(Chicago Region Tree Initiative); Davey Tree, Rep
Moeller's staff, community and staff participation great; Jacquelyn's encouragement key.

Do we want small signs for the new trees?

Next steps: add these to tree signage program? Temporary signage...Ask Art teacher
(Kerry)

D. Water Runoff--Updates

E. Campus Map--Feedback and Next Steps

F. Map of Forest Preserve

G. Tick Talk

H. Trails and Walkways

I. IDOT - Traffic on I-25

J. Tree signs

K. Sound Wall (Illinois Tollway)

L. EMSA Mission-Vision-Goal Setting Enviro Recommendations

M. Ongoing Tree Care & Planned Landscaping

N. Land acknowledgement

III. Other Business

A. What else do we need to be thinking about?

Kerry ask art teacher about painting silo door.

IV. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 12:37 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
K. Kelly

B. Discussion of additional capital spending items - landscaping