

**Avon Hills Initiative Executive Committee and Staff Meeting
May 31, 2006 4:45p.m.
Room 150 New Science Center, Saint John's University**

Present: Cliff Borgerding, Allan Davisson, Bill Fahrney, Melissa Holm, Tom Kroll, Sherry Kutter, Steve Plantenberg, Lowell Rushmeyer

Old Business

- 1.0 Update on Stearns County Comprehensive Land Use Plan Update and the Review Committee (Allan D. and Steve P.)
Current estimated time to go through and update the Comprehensive Plan is 1.5 years. The next meeting is scheduled to take place on June 27th. An inquiry has been made into holding the meetings at a more central location instead of at the highway department.
- 2.0 Update on progress on Collegeville Township Comprehensive Land Use Plan (Allan D. and Emily F.)
Four meetings are scheduled to take place this summer, one focused on each quadrant of the township. The hope is to repeat the atmosphere of the meeting in January.
- 3.0 Update on fundraising efforts for Avon Hills Land Heritage Coordinator Position (Tom K. and Emily F.)
 - 3.1 Initiative Foundation Proposal progress (\$10,000 proposed)
 - 3.2 Central Minnesota Community Foundation progress (\$15,000 proposed)**If full funding for the position is attained, the possibility of the coordinator doing some work for the Nature Conservatory or on the Collegeville Township Comprehensive Plan has been brought up. If only half of the funding is attained, the most important tasks for the coordinator to perform include newsletters and regular contacts with the landowners of the Avon Hills, and research of potential opportunist such as Conservation Overlay Districts.**

New Business

- 4.0 Introduction of New Board Members (Steve P.)
 - 4.1 Lowell Rushmeyer
 - 4.2 Jackie Leedahl
 - 4.3 Bill Fahrney**Lowell and Bill were present and introduced themselves. Jackie was absent, but expressed interest in organizing a social activity for the group to other members.**
- 5.0 Introduction of new Arboretum Writer/Office Coordinator Fellow (Tom K.)
 - 5.1 Melissa Holm
 - 5.2 Discussion of Melissa's role in supporting the efforts of AHI**Melissa is to continue Emily's role of taking meeting minutes and offering general office support to the organization.**
- 6.0 Elections for next Avon Hills Initiative Executive Board Chair
Elections are to take place at a meeting in the fall at a gathering of the Avon Hills initiative. Peter Dwyer and Cliff Borgerding have agreed to run for chair. Other nominees are welcome.
- 7.0 Schedule next full Avon Hills Initiative Meeting
A date, time, location and agenda for a full Avon Hills meeting need to be set at the June 28th Executive meeting.

8.0 Discussion of where else to hold AHI meetings (Collegeville Town Hall, local restaurants etc)
The next meeting is proposed to take place in the Collegeville Town Hall. Allan felt that use would likely be free unless other expenses were involved. Emily or Melissa is to contact Ken Hanson about using the facility for the next full meeting.

9.0 Newsletter of recent and upcoming activities
Melissa is to make a short news update for the next meeting outlining details about elections, fall activities, future meetings and the proposed coordinator position.

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for June 28th from 4:45 to 5:45 pm. We will meet at the Collegeville Town Hall. The meetings are open to the public.