



“To achieve a cleaner and more beautiful community through the education and involvement of its citizens”

Keep Rome-Floyd Beautiful

Minutes

March 29, 2023, 4:00 p.m.

Floyd County Administration Building

Present: Commissioner Rhonda Wallace, Floyd County Commission
Hannah Bagley, Program Coordinator
Brooke Brinson, KRFB Chairman
Chris Jenkins, City of Rome Public Works Division Director
Julie Smith, City of Rome Trails and Transportation Planner
Michael Jones, KRFB Board Member
Bob Henderson, KRFB Board Member
Lucy Burnes, KRFB Board Member
Pam Roberts, KRFB Board Member
Georgia Burns, KRFB Board Member
Ginger Rowston, KRFB Board Member

Call to Order:

This meeting was called to order by Mr. Brinson. The minutes from the January 23 meeting were approved by common consent.

Reports:

Year to Date, there have been 17 events and programs, 595 participants, 851 participant hours, and 3,040 pounds of litter removed. We have almost reached one-third of the litter removed for the entirety of 2022.

The original 4th Monday of each month KRFB meeting will be moved, as it conflicts with the City Commission meetings. Regardless, meetings will continue to be held at 4:00 p.m. at the Floyd County Administration meeting.

Old Business:

Arbor Day resulted in a turnout of 129 people despite the weather. The plan is to do the same format next year, with kids from surrounding high schools being able to plan and play a role in the presentation of Arbor Day. High school students and FFA programs were also able to take home some of the extra seedlings.

The dump trailer has been purchased with the BRACE grant. Any item bought with this grant money must have educational value, so we will be wrapping it with educational graphics. It will be very useful to not have to disrupt the City or County Public Works' duties by borrowing their trailers. If TRED or other board members want to utilize it at any point that KRFB does not need it, they are welcome to borrow it.

New Business:

Green Fest with West End Elementary is being postponed to the fall semester, or a later time. On May 15, we will be doing the same concept, but at Johnson Elementary. There will be many educational activities concerning water and recycling, such as seed bombs, games, crafts, demonstrations, and others. There will also be a snack station, which we may need a sponsor for. Kellogs has offered to donate rice krispy treats. Mr. Winkelman, Director of the Rome-Floyd ECO Center will also be bringing native animals. We estimate that about 500 kids will come throughout the school day in increments of 55 minutes by grade level. Board members are encouraged to sign up for a time slot to volunteer, and parent volunteers will also be involved. KRFB will be using the same Georgia Standard of Excellence as used in the classroom. Commissioner Rhonda Wallace hopes this initial event will act as an example for all schools in the area to follow. We had hoped to make this a community wide event, but with schools increasing security lately, this is something that would be impossible to do during the school day.

Ginger Rowston was recommended by Chairman Brooke Brinson to join the KRFB Board. She is retired from Rome City Schools, and has a variety of different community service experiences. Mrs. Roberts made a motion to accept Mrs. Rowston as a new KRFB Board Member, and this motion was seconded by Mr. Henderson.

The Earth Day event with Ball Corporation is still under works, as they are still deciding on a specific date. They would like to involve both the cup and can plants in two different shifts. Mrs.

Bagley attended a lunch meeting with Ball Corporation Representatives last week to discuss these details, but they have not finalized a date.

The yard sign cleanup initiative is still on pause, as the City Code Enforcement is doing a good job of keeping it in check.

In honor of Celebrating Georgia Cities week there will be a Water Reclamation Tour on April 26th, from 11 to 12PM. KRFB Board Members are encouraged to sign up to learn about water reclamation and conservation.

KRFB will be putting on multiple Free Tarp Giveaways at various locations. All of these dates fall on Tuesdays and Fridays from 9 to 11 AM. These will encourage the ordinance that states that you must tarp your load when driving to prevent litter ending up in the Right - of - Ways. This will be one of our biggest environmental pushes during Earth Month.

Mr. Jenkins asked about the involvement between the Garden Club and KRFB, because there have been some issues with maintenance of garden beds at Clocktower Hill and a few other locations downtown. Mrs. Roberts suggested that the Master Gardeners are required to log a certain number of hours, so they may be willing to pick up some of the areas of lacking if we reach out to them. Most KRFB Board Members were in agreement that we should invite the new Vice President of the Garden Club to sit on the board once they are officially elected. Mrs. Lucy Burnes also suggested that we should connect these clubs with high school clubs to get more young people involved and create more opportunities for fulfilling service hour requirements. Mrs. Bagley also plans on getting all of the surrounding schools involved in service this summer with organizations like Habitat for Humanity and Housing Authority.

Adjourn:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sophia G. Swann

Sophia Swann, Secretary