ICCSD Integrated Pest Management Task Force

Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 7, 2015
4:00 pm – 5:30 pm
Educational Services Center, 1725 N. Dodge St., Iowa City,
IA Professional Development Center, Room A & B

Meeting Facilitator: Craig Hansel, Chief Financial Officer

Present: Jeff Barnes, Caroline Dieterle, Ben Grimm, Phil Hemingway, Dr. Brandi Janssen, Jennifer Kardos, Brian Kirschling, Dave McKenzie, Jennifer Mettemeyer, Joyce Miller, Mike O’Leary, Susie Poulton, Duane Van Hemert, Geoff Wilming

Absent: Ryan Adams, John Bacon, Lore Baur, Terry Coleman, Matt Degner, Alison Demory, Carol DeProsse, Lisa Hall, Chris Henze, Michelle Kenyon, Scott Kibby, Ann Langenfeld, Geoff Lauer, Liz Maas, Mark McBurney, Troy McQuillen, Chris Pisarik, Dr. Mary Skopec, Charlie Stumpff, Dr. Fred Whitford

I. Call to order 4:00pm

II. Review and approve minutes from previous meeting

Approved with no changes

III. Discussion of accepting Dr. Mark Shour’s offer to assist in the formation of an IPM plan for ICCSD. If not, what are the alternatives the committee would like to consider.

- Craig sent out action items earlier to the committee but received feedback that we were moving too quickly. Craig decided to slow down the process for the committee to develop our IPM program.
- The committee felt Dr. Mark Shour gave a great presentation and we should take Dr. Mark Shour up on his offer to help us develop an IPM program.
- There was a consensus that Dr. Shour could lead the effort and use other experts or resources that would benefit our committee as needed.
- Another IPM expert mentioned was Kamyar Enshayan, Director for the Center for Energy & Environmental Education at the University of Northern Iowa. Kamyar presented at the Iowa City Public Library, Reducing Pesticides: School and Community Models That Work.
- The committee was in favor of utilizing Mark and Kamyar to assist us in developing an IPM policy for our school district.
- West Des Moines Schools and New York State have low or no pesticide use IPM policies in place.
IV. Regardless of the outcome of agenda item #3 the committee should consider providing direction on the following:

a. Do you want to us a sub-committee to do the “heavy lifting” so to speak of writing drafts and assimilating committee feedback into an IPM plan? If so who do you want to lead this effort?

- The committee decided to form an advisory committee with the following members on the committee: Dr. Mark Shour, Kamyar Enshayan, Dr. Craig Hansel, Ben Grimm and Geoff Lauer.
- The advisory committee would advise the two subcommittees, Exterior and Interior.
- Craig Hansel will email the committee and ask everyone if they want to be on a subcommittee for either exterior or interior IPM to draft a policy to bring back to the committee as a whole for feedback.

b. What role or feedback do you want the committee at large having in this task?

- Everything that the subcommittee discovers through the educational process and creates will need to be presented to the main committee for their feedback.

c. What questions need to be answered as we move into a process like this?

- Craig Hansel will reach out to Dr. Mark Shour and ask his opinion on what questions need to be answered through the development of the IPM policy.

d. What timeline should the committee consider to be reasonable for a process like this?

- It was decided that Craig Hansel will reach out to Dr. Mark Shour and ask for his opinion on how long this process might take. Craig will ask both Dr. Mark Shour and Kamyar Enshayan for their availability during the next 6-12 months.
- Craig will email the committee the information he receives from Mark and Kamyar.
- It was determined that aerating, fertilizing and over seeding is still acceptable practices for our grounds/turf management team to use with our interim IPM policy.
- There was some confusion if pre-emergent herbicide use was acceptable to use with our interim IPM policy.
- Fence lines, edge of buildings, and gardens (foundation landscaping) could be a problem in the spring if we do not use a pre-emergent. Craig Hansel and Ben Grimm were going to ask Dr. Mark Shour if he would recommend an organic, least toxic herbicide to use in certain areas in our district. They will report back their finding to the committee.
- There was some discussion if we should cap the maximum number of participants on each subcommittee to five to create the most productive and efficient use of time. We will wait and see if how many volunteers sign up for a subcommittee before determining if we need to set a maximum limit.
e. Is there a need to provide opportunities for the greater community at large to provide their feedback into this process?

- Community listening posts were suggested. 1 ½ hours each, with a short educational presentation in the beginning before discussion.
- It was recommended that we have three forums: east side, west side and north side of the school district.
- Suggestion to determine a way to provide the IPM committee minutes to more people in the community.
- Suggestion to have the IPM discussion at a DPO meeting as vehicle of communication to educate the community.

V. The ICCSD board of Education only has one meeting in December scheduled for the 8th. Considering the work yet to be accomplished we will not be in a position as a committee to make our final recommendation to the board as was desired. Do we want to make an interim report to the board of some type?

- Report out in January to the Board Operations Committee, we will have more of a timeline to report and subcommittee members determined at that time.

VI. Next meeting date is December 14. Does the committee want to set future meeting dates and if so determine what they are?

- No, the committee cancelled the December 14th meeting and decided they should wait until we hear back from Mark on his availability before determining future dates.

VII. Discuss the agenda for the December 14 meeting. One agenda item being the transition of committee facilitator from Dr. Craig Hansel to Dr. Cliff Ehlinger.

- The committee cancelled the December 14th meeting. However, it was decided that Mondays work best for the group and we plan on meeting once a month. The first meeting in January is yet to be determined.

A question was asked by a committee member: Is the interim policy is working well?

- Ben Grimm answered that it is not going well. His staff receives a lot of complaints about weeds in the gardens (foundation landscaping), fence lines, and athletic fields.
- By late fall his team were seeing the implications for the ban use. Come next spring cracks in the sidewalk and foundations will be a problem. Ben would like to know what products can be used on the hard surfaces and along fence lines.
• As for the internal areas of the buildings Dave McKenzie reported there are bugs in kitchens that need to be eliminated per Health Department regulations. They have been sending out notices to parents 48 hours in advance of using pesticides and they only spray on Saturdays.

VIII. Adjourn Meeting 5:15pm
