

Sustainability Commission Minutes

Monday, March 4, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

Mission City Hall

In attendance: John Arnett, Terri Baugh, David Greenlee, Andy Hyland, Hannah McFarland, Sean Partain, Alexis Penny, Zora Stewart-Jones, Josh Thede, Manny Trillo

Staff present: Emily Randel

Guest present: Lynn Bain

I. Welcome and Introductions

Josh Thede welcomed everyone to the meeting.

II. Approval of the February 4, 2019 minutes

Andy Hyland moved to approve the minutes. David Greenlee seconded the motion.

III. Old Business

A. Review of presentation to Community Development Committee

The group praised Andy Hyland and Josh Thede for their presentation to the Community Development Committee meeting on February 6. The group agrees that there needs to be additional clarity around how ideas are shared between the commission and council. Andy Hyland commented that he felt the message came through that Sustainability is accomplishing real tasks. The group agrees that regular communication and the potential of a council liaison will help. Also, converting the Sustainability Commission goals into SMART goals (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant and Timely) would make for more impactful reports to Council.

The goal of being visible, either the City, the Sustainability Commission, or a specific activity was discussed as well. The group agreed that visibility is a benefit in its own right, because it may trigger interest on behalf of a resident seeing the work of the group.

The group briefly discussed some of the ideas mentioned at the Committee meeting including policies around residential tear-down and rebuilds, grant writing, and incorporating more policy language or requirements for sustainability measures related to City development incentives.

B. Report from Communities for All Ages Sub-Committee Meeting

Alexis Penny shared that the sub-committee met including Alexis, Manny, John, Sean, and Emily. They defined the scope and objectives of their work, and started to brainstorm around the idea of a worksession. The group will meet again before the April S.C. meeting to review the Communities for All Ages Checklist items.

C. Energy Audit Research Update

Manny shared background information via email to the group about the Kansas Corporation Commission and their Facility Conservation Improvement Program. The program facilitates

energy audit services with pre-approved contractors. The group agreed to invite someone from the program to speak at a future Sustainability Commission meeting.

D. Ditch the Bag Education Update

Terri Baugh will coordinate a sub-committee meeting to review next steps.

E. Report from Feb. 9 Drawdown: Solutions to Reverse Global Warming Program

Josh Thede shared a review of the February 9 Drawdown event that was open to the general public. 120 people attended. Josh is part of a group of 25 people pursuing an intensive Drawdown track.

F. Update on Regional Collaboration

IV. New Business

A. Earth Hour Planning

Earth Hour will be Saturday, March 30. The advertised start time will be 8:15 p.m. to allow people time to arrive before the lights are turned off. Broadmoor Park shelter has been reserved, and a police officer will attend. Terri Baugh will bring craft paper and markers for the sustainability resolutions, she will bring her recycling demonstration materials and lights to hang on the shelter. Emily Randel will bring materials/ingredients for s'mores and a Big Green Box for demonstration purposes. Josh Thede will bring his Planet Earth flag. The advertising will advise attendees to bring their own reusable water bottles. Andy Hyland will register the event on the earthhour.org site and will share verbiage and images for social media sharing. Emily Randel will create the Facebook group.

John Arnett moved that Emily should purchase s'mores ingredients for approximately \$23 and will boost the event on Facebook for \$20. Terri Baugh seconded the motion. The motion passed.

B. Facility Conservation Improvement Program Presentation for future S.C. meeting

The group agreed that Manny should invite someone from the program to present at a future meeting.

C. Procedural Discussion

Josh Thede asked the group if they are open to receiving informational emails about related topics between meetings. No one objected to receiving such emails. If an email sparks discussion via email, the topic can be moved to a future meeting agenda.

The group confirmed that the Sustainability Commission email in September would be moved to Tuesday, September 3 to avoid the Labor Day holiday.

The group discussed the number of sub-committee meetings. It was agreed that the current sub-committees are appropriate, and overloading schedules will be managed if it becomes an issue. More clarity will be coming regarding the frequency and method of reporting out to Council following the City Council’s worksession on March 27 about a Council liaisons policy.

V. Standing Items

A. Review and update of goals tracking sheet

The group reviewed and entered a few updates to the goals tracking sheet.

B. Battery Recycling Update

The group further discussed the potential of switching the battery recycling program to using the Johnson County Household Hazardous Waste services. There is a \$200 set-up fee, but the price per pound is much lower than the Big Green Box program, and even lower if the City can facilitate storing the batteries in five gallon drums for pick-up. Terri Baugh is still gathering more information.

Emily Randel provided an update of 1,761 pounds of batteries diverted from the landfill since the program began.

C. Budget Review

Purchase	Cost	Month Reported
USGBC Conference Registration (McFarland)	\$125	February
TOTAL SPENT: \$125		
TOTAL REMAINING: \$4,875		

Emily Randel shared pricing information and examples for a Sustainability Commission tablecloth for outreach events. The group agreed on the City logo printed on a fitted green tablecloth, with Sustainability Commission underneath the logo.

D. Adopt-a-Street Program

The group discussed adopting a section of Shawnee Mission Parkway through the Kansas Department of Transportation program. The road is desirable because of the visibility and high traffic. The state controls the right-of-way on Shawnee Mission Parkway, so the clean-up would occur through that program rather than through the City’s program for local roads. David Greenlee moved to switch from cleaning Squibb Road to Shawnee Mission Parkway. Terri Baugh seconded. The motion passed. Terri Baugh will coordinate the group’s next clean-up.

** David Greenlee and Lynn Bain left the meeting at 8:28 p.m. **

VI. Reminders and Announcements

Emily Randel reminded everyone about the Service Recognition Dinner on Thursday, March 7 at 6:00 p.m. at Milburn Country Club.

VII. Review of Action Items

VIII. Adjourn

Terri Baugh moved to adjourn the meeting. Manny Trillo seconded the motion and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Sustainability Commission will be on Monday, April 1, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at Mission City Hall.