

MINUTES OF THE MISSION SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

June 27, 2013

The Mission Sustainability Commission met at the Sylvester Powell, Jr. Community Center, 6200 Martway, Thursday, June 27, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioners present: Doug Blessing, Largo Callenbach, Rafael Duran, Doug Gregg, Steve Helvey, Leslie Herring, and Nicole Moran.

Commissioners absent: Kate Fields.

Staff present: Rosalind Johnson, Danielle Murray, and Emily Randel.

Approval of Minutes of May 23, 2013 Meeting

Mr Duran moved and Mr Blessing seconded a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the May 23, 2013 meeting. The motion passed with no opposition.

Development Review Process & Sustainability Criteria

The Commission discussed how to integrate their sustainability criteria into Mission's development process. Ms Murray reviewed what the Commission had discussed previously: The Commission can choose between active and passive methods, can choose different tactics based on a project's size, and can choose methods that either encourage the use of sustainable practices, or regulate them.

The group discussed these options, and generally agreed to give preference to encouraging sustainable practices rather than requiring them.

Topics for future discussion include:

Business Improvement Grant - The Commission can discuss how the grant criteria could be adjusted to award sustainable activities before the new round of grants begins in 2014.

Green Business Recognition - The Commission could establish a voluntary program to recognize sustainable business practices. The commissioners would need to develop criteria for scoring, and a public relations plan to promote the program and its participants.

Sustainability Review for Projects Receiving City Incentives - When larger development projects enter into financial agreements with the City for development incentives, sustainability could be a consideration in those negotiations. The Commission could approach City Council with a recommendation to consider these kinds of practices in future agreements.

Update on Neighborhood Services Speaker Series

Ms Johnson shared a preliminary schedule for the 2013 speaker series. The Commission had previously indicated that once a quarter, they would like to try to help plan one of the events. The current topic proposed is a vendor fair highlighting energy efficiency upgrades for single family homes.

Ms. Johnson and the Commission reviewed the vendor list Ms Herring had drafted, and divided

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the names among themselves. The group agreed that before the July meeting, they would invite their assigned vendors to participate.

The group discussed having a Sustainability Commission table at the entrance to the event, where they would distribute grab bags.

They agreed on having two speaker slots, at 9:15 and 12:30, and inviting a food truck to offer concessions in the parking lot. Guests could also receive snacks and coupons for the food truck in their grab bags, and the group could use the Community Center's popcorn machine.

Ms. Johnson shared that the Roeland Park Sustainability Commission had expressed interest in participating in the event and the group agreed to invite participation from the small, neighboring cities.

Old Business

Ms Herring shared that the Rushton PTA will engage in September fundraising to gather the money for the community garden. At the May meeting, the Commission had agreed to match funds raised up to \$300. The Commission asked Ms. Herring to share with the Rushton PTA that the Commission's contribution must be spent by the end of 2013.

New Business

Ms. Callenbach proposed a discussion for the next meeting. She has heard from more than one business concern that the changes on Johnson Drive will harm the sustainability of his/her business. Ms. Callenbach would like the group to generate a series of talking points that address those concerns. The group agreed to resume the discussion at the July meeting.

Roundtable

The upcoming speaker series events including the the "Trashology" session on August 22, the composting session on September 26, and the blood drive on October 1.

ADJOURN

There being no further items for discussion, the Commission adjourned at approximately 8:00 PM.

Submitted by Emily Randel, Neighborhood Services Coordinator