

MINUTES OF THE MISSION SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Monday, February 1, 2021 - 6:30 P.M.

Held virtually, via ZOOM

In attendance: John Arnett, Terri Baugh, Cathy Boyer-Shesol, David Greenlee, Andy Hyland, Hunter Lindquist, Lenny Lippert, Ellen Parker, Mike Patterson, Josh Thede
Council Liaisons present: Councilmember Sollie Flora, Councilmember Debbie Kring
Staff present: Emily Randel, Assistant to the City Administrator
Guests: James Tormohlen; Morgan Henderson and Piercyn Charbonneau, Ripple Glass; Mary Ryherd from the Parks, Recreation and Tree Commission

I. Welcome and introductions

David Greenlee welcomed everyone to the meeting. Mike Patterson and Lenny Lippert joined for their first meeting as official members after being appointed in January. James Tormohlen joined for his first meeting, anticipating appointment in February.

II. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Presentation - Morgan Henderson, Metro Program Manager and Piercyn Charbonneau, Commercial Program Manager, Ripple Glass

Morgan Henderson shared an overview of the history of Ripple Glass and current operations, and highlights of the Ripple Glass recycling program from the collection bin at the Mission HyVee. The Mission HyVee bin is collected every eight days. The most promising way to increase the collection amount is to drop more bins for additional collection locations. Morgan would be interested in hearing suggestions for new bin locations. Currently, Mission is recycling an estimated total of 20% of the likely total of recycled items, based on population, and knowledge of market usage trends. The market average is right at 20% in the metropolitan area. Typically, Ripple Glass tries to have a bin within a five minute driving radius, but if there was a promising second location inside of that radius, it would be worth a try. Ripple Glass is interested in promoting the services through communication channels and education to various groups.

If any members ever visit a bin that is full or overflowing, they are welcome to reach out. Members are also welcome to slide the doors on the bins closed if one side of the bin is full and another is more open.

Members made note of the “art bin” that is painted with a colorful mural that happens to be at Mission’s HyVee this week. Some members asked questions about what can be accepted, how to locate bins and confirmation on what is made from the glass. Mike Patterson, President at Ripple Glass, shared that a main output, in addition to new glass bottles, is fiberglass insulation made by Owens Corning in Kansas City, KS. There is a 30% decrease of energy needed to

make fiberglass from recycled materials compared to virgin material, in this case, sand. There are glass furnaces in Oklahoma and St. Louis, so the demand is high for our area. There is a strong pressure to reduce the carbon emissions in the concrete industry. Ripple Glass is involved in a research project related to this use.

Ripple started a commercial program in 2018 to capture material from high producers such as bars and restaurants. Since that time, 2,500 tons have been collected through the program. Thai Orchid and Salsa Grill in Mission are currently participating. It is a subscription program starting at \$25 per month. Participating businesses are provided a 64 or 96 gallon container based on their estimates and collect between 1-4 times a month. The Sustainability Commission will work to promote the program in Mission.

At a certain point in the past, a competition occurred between Mission and Roeland Park to see who could collect the most glass in a certain time. It would be a fun idea to explore.

Ripple Glass would be able to pilot a curbside collection program if Mission is interested.

IV. Selection of 2021 Chair and Vice-Chair

Terri Baugh nominated Cathy Boyer-Shesol for Chair and Josh Thede as Vice Chair. Mike Patterson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

V. Approval of the January 4, 2021 meeting minutes

Andy Hyland moved to approve the January meeting minutes, David Greenlee seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

VI. Old Business

o Curbside Composting Program

Terri Baugh continued her report on investigating curbside compost collection in Mission. Terri reported that she did not have luck hearing back from Food Cycle KC. Mike Patterson shared that the smaller companies like KC Can Compost and Compost Collective take collected food scraps to Missouri Organic Recycling. Mike Patterson and Lenny Lippert both volunteered to look for more information from both of these companies.

o Sustainability Scorecard

Emily Randel shared an email response from Steve Coon of EPC confirming the sustainable elements of The Locale project. Josh Thede and Emily will work together to finalize the look of the silver level recognition plaque, and coordinate recognition activities in March and in the next issue of the Mission Magazine. Mike Patterson and Lenny Lippert volunteered to join the scorecard sub-committee, in addition to Josh, Andy Hyland and Terri Baugh.

VII. New Business

VIII. Standing Items

- Upcoming Outreach and Mission Magazine Article Topic

Emily Randel submitted information on the Stormwater Management Best Practices program for the March issue. Councilmember Kring requested that a future article include mention of how the Sustainability Commission provides input into future development projects. Emily Randel added that the topic would tie in very well to celebrating the success of The Locale with the program, as well as the Mission Bowl development.

- Recycling Sub-Committee

Terri Baugh and David Greenlee are working on a recycling video to educate about the materials, based on the door hangers.

The group discussed the methods of delivering the door hangers. The door hangers are just one touchpoint, so if some residents did not notice their door hanger, or if it blew off the door, etc. there are other ways to provide the information. The group supports Terri Baugh connecting with the Sustainability Coordinator for Shawnee Mission School District to see if the extra door hangers could be distributed to area schools. There are 5,000 extra hangers as a result of a printing mistake, at no cost to the Sustainability Commission.

Light Recycling Update: Terri reported that the program was successful. The collection amount was lower in 2020 than in 2019, likely because people were not getting out as much. Westlake Hardware is also collecting the lights.

- CFAA Sub-Committee Update

Cathy Boyer-Shesol suggested that we have a presentation on Communities for All Ages for the benefit of the new members. Emily Randel suggested that for a future meeting agenda, possibly when the sub-committee is ready to share the prioritized items from the updated checklist.

- Parks, Recreation, and Tree Commission Update

Mary Ryherd shared a quick update from the group. Mary shared that the Commission reviewed the new branded wayfinding signage to be placed in Mission parks. The City anticipates hearing about whether we receive a grant to support the improvements in Mohawk Park in February.

- Council Liaison Update

Councilmember Flora reiterated that the wayfinding signage will be on the February agenda as well as the reconfiguration of Johnson Drive to three lanes. She mentioned that she is helping to coordinate letters of support from elected officials for the parks grant.

Councilmember Debbie Kring shared that the City Council anticipates appointing Interim Police Chief Dan Madden to Chief of Police at a Special Council meeting on Wednesday. Councilmember Flora shared that Interim Chief will be joining the Ward IV meeting on Tuesday, February 9.

Councilmember Debbie Kring shared that she is still pursuing a solution for a protected pedestrian crossing opportunity on Johnson Drive between Lamar Avenue to Barkley Street.

Councilmember Kring shared information on the Otocast app., a history tour that has recently been released. Andy Hyland provides the introduction narration. The app. can be downloaded for both ios and Android.

- Comprehensive Plan Update

The next Steering Committee meeting will be February 18th.

IX. Reminders and announcements

Typically, the Sustainability Commission will present an update to the Community Development Commission in February. Emily Randel will work with Andy Hyland and the new Chair and Vice Chair for an update for the March meeting.

X. Review of action items

XI. Adjourn

David Greenlee moved to adjourn the meeting. Terri Baugh seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Sustainability Commission will be on Monday, March 1, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.