

MINUTES OF THE MISSION SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Monday, April 5, 2021 - 6:30 P.M.

Held virtually, via ZOOM

In attendance: John Arnett, Terri Baugh, Cathy Boyer-Shesol, David Greenlee, Andy Hyland, Lenny Lippert, Ellen Parker, Mike Patterson, Josh Thede, James Tormohlen

Council Liaisons present: Councilmember Sollie Flora, Councilmember Debbie Kring

Staff present: Emily Randel, Assistant to the City Administrator

Guests: Anne O'Leary from the Parks, Recreation and Tree Commission; Charles Marx, Green Business Program Manager with Johnson County Department of Health and Environment; Jennifer Katheiser, Mission resident.

I. Welcome and introductions

Cathy Boyer-Shesol welcomed everyone to the meeting.

II. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Presentation: Charles Marx, Green Business Program Manager with Johnson County Department of Health and Environment

Charles Marx described the Green Business Program that offers a certification to businesses or churches to complete. The program offers a consultation for any business that puts forward a request around water, waste and energy metrics. The program had previously focused on waste diversion, but now has expanded to other resource issues. The program is very scalable based on the size of business. If a business does not own the building where they operate, the program staff asks that the business begin the conversation with the building owner to work collaboratively. Charles Marx will send program materials via email following the meeting. The Commission members agreed to promote the program and work together in the future.

IV. Sustainability Moment - John Arnett shared a "Sustainability Moment" on the Adopt-A-Street program. The last pick-up event resulted in more trash than any previous clean-up, and there was true "all ages" representation with Ellen Parker's daughter participating.

V. Approval of the March 1, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Terri Baugh moved to approve the March meeting minutes, John Arnett seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

VI. Future Planning and Goal Setting

Cathy Boyer-Shesol noticed at a previous meeting that even some of the longer term members were not aware of all the activities that the Sustainability Commission completes. John Arnett,

Ellen Parker, Terri Baugh and Cathy will plan the orientation. The orientation will occur at 6 p.m. on Monday, May 3 before the next regular meeting.

A strategic planning retreat would be planned for the summer, once meetings can occur again in person. Andy and Terri will assist with planning the retreat.

Communications planning was very prominent in the Communities for All Ages work.

VII. Standing Items

- Communities for All Ages Sub-Committee Update

John Arnett provided an overview of Communities for All Ages. The sub-committee will prioritize all the items called out in the review.

- Comprehensive Plan Update

Josh Thede gave an update from the Steering Committee. The group discussed transportation items at the last meeting, and have reviewed the public input. The next meeting on April 15 will cover land use items. A community survey will be coming forward soon. Those with land use items to be considered should share with one of the Steering Committee representatives.

Terri Baugh offered some criticism of the recent changes made in North Kansas City sharing that it was difficult to navigate by car when she was there last.

- Recycling Sub-Committee Update

Terri Baugh heard from Prairie Village that they have had a positive experience with Food Cycle. Terri Baugh would propose a meeting with City staff to explore moving forward with a contract to achieve the discount offered. Lenny Lippert seconded the motion.

Terri Baugh moved to expand the Sustainability Commission's section of the Adopt-A-Street territory to both sides of Shawnee Mission Parkway to take over the area recently vacated from the Kiwanis Club had been cleaning. The motion passed.

- Sustainability Scorecard Sub-Committee

The sub-committee meeting met last month with Emily Randel and Kaitlyn Service, City Planner. Moving forward, Emily Randel will attend the pre-application meetings with future developments.

Emily showed the award created by Ripple Glass from reclaimed glass material. She has not yet connected with EPC Real Estate Group to present the award, but will follow up. The next two Mission Magazines will feature the project.

Andy Hyland thanked Emily Randel and Kaitlyn Service for the thoughtful ideas they provided at the meeting about the best way to incorporate the Scorecard into future development.

- Community Development Committee Presentation Recap

Josh Thede gave an overview of the feedback. The recording of the meeting is available to view on the City's website.

- Parks, Recreation and Tree Commission Update

Hunter Lindquist shared meeting notes via email since she could not attend the Sustainability meeting. Anne O'Leary, attending from the Parks, Recreation and Tree Commission, reported that volunteers are needed for the upcoming Pickleball Tournament and the Kids to Parks events in May.

Terri Baugh will attend the next PRT meeting.

- Upcoming Outreach and Mission Magazine Article Topics

The next topic may be on the Stormwater Best Management Practices. Cathy Boyer-Shesol, Andy Hyland and Emily Randel will connect to discuss.

- Council Liaison Update

Councilmember Flora reminded everyone that the Johnson Drive road diet will be discussed at the April Community Development Committee meeting.

The budget discussions will be beginning soon. Public input will be welcome any time with set meetings as well. Councilmember Kring suggested training opportunities in the upcoming budget recommendations especially about new technologies and applications in infrastructure, etc.

- City Update

Emily shared about the launch of the new website and welcomed feedback. Emily will share a brief overview of the site at the May meeting.

VIII. Reminders and Announcement

Earth Day, Arbor Day will be coming up this month. Josh Thede shared about the Solve Climate by 2030 Kansas Climate and Energy Plan Wednesday, April 7 where he will be one of the panelists. He will send a link to the group in case anyone would like to watch the discussion.

IX. Review of Action Items

Andy Hyland brought up moving to in-person meetings. The City Council is considering resuming in-person meetings in May. The commissions would likely follow that timeline.

X. Adjourn

Andy Hyland moved to adjourn the meeting. Terri Baugh seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Sustainability Commission will be on Monday, May 3, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.