

MINUTES OF THE MISSION SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Monday, April 11, 2022 - 6:30 P.M.

Powell Community Center

In attendance: Ramsey Attaria, Lynn Bain, Terri Baugh, Andy Hyland, Ellen Parker, Mike Patterson, Lauren Reiter-Schmid, Josh Thede

Council Liaisons present: Councilmembers Kring

Staff present: Emily Randel, Assistant City Administrator

Guests present: Cindy Long from the Parks, Recreation and Tree Commission

I. Welcome and introductions

Josh Thede welcomed everyone to the meeting. The members introduced themselves and Ellen Parker read the Mission and Vision Statement aloud.

II. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Sustainability Moment

Josh Thede shared a Sustainability Moment by discussing his Earth flag. He shared that the flag represents for him the history of Earth Day and all the work and effort that has gone into the movement to protect the planet. He had the flag with him at the Climate Action Summit, and flies it at his house. He noticed that his neighbor is now flying an Earth flag as well which emphasizes the impact one person's actions can have.

IV. Sustainability Scorecard Discussion with Stride Development Re: The Mission Preserve
Jason Ferdig with Stride Development met with the group via Zoom. The Sustainability Scorecard sub-committee had previously met and reviewed the scorecard that Jason had shared that gives the project a score to each element in the Scorecard. Jason gave a project review and a summary of the answers he provided. The group asked questions related to use of on-site shower facilities for residents, resident balconies, the use of gray water, recycling collection, the walking trail, utility billing configurations and third party certifications. Josh Thede asked what sustainability element of the project the Jason is most proud of. He answered that it is in the name of the project, The Preserve and all the efforts the team is making to site the project among the natural features and to preserve as many of the trees as possible.

V. Approval of the March 7, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Terri Baugh moved to approve the meeting minutes. Andy Hyland seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

VI. Climate Action Updates

Andy Hyland shared an overview of the planning for the Climate Action Task Force and the goals that he hopes the group will achieve. Emily Randel shared how the first group of meetings will inform the 2023 budget development process and how if the project goes as expected, it may be worthwhile to reach out to Climate Action KC and the Mid-America Regional Council to highlight the process and achievements.

Josh Thede asked those who attended the Climate Action Summit to share feedback and key takeaways. Ramsey Attaria spoke to the quality of the guest speakers and how much of an influence what you do can have on the rest of the community. In particular, the former Mayor of Pittsburgh, Bill Peduto had very inspiring comments about his city's history of being detrimental to the environment but now innovating to improve once again. Ramsey was inspired by the vendors, and even planted a home garden following the Summit to grow local food. Andy Hyland shared about the benefit of building relationships of those attending and hosting the summit. He took advantage of the tour of the campus and was able to ask questions related to his professional role. Lauren Reiter-Schmid was interested in the [UN 17 Sustainable Development Goals](#) and saw opportunity in common themes and the value of communication and working together. She appreciated Representative Sharice Davids seeking direction from community members and asking them what barriers exist and how the community thinks those will best be addressed. Emily Randel commented how important the inspiration from the summit is and shared that she was grateful to the organizers for their work. Josh Thede had many takeaways, but noted the impacts climate change has on people's health and living conditions and environmental justice. He also made note of the City of Pittsburgh's p4 concepts of People, Planet, Place and Performance.

VII. Sub-Committee

- Recycling Committee
 - Environmental Fair Update

Terri Baugh shared an update on the fair's progress and reminded the group that she shared the list of vendors via email.

Terri Baugh reminded the group that the Bunny Eggstravaganza will be Saturday, April 16 from 9:45 a.m.-Noon. She is seeking volunteers to staff the Recycling information table.

- Battery Recycling Update

Terri made the motion that the Sustainability Commission approve the purchase of a shipping bucket for the lithium batteries from Battery Solutions for \$74.95. Andy Hyland seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Emily Randel shared that the program has diverted 29 lbs. certification received. John Arnett and Terri Baugh will be sorting batteries Wednesday, April 20 and would welcome anyone who could help.

- Scorecard Committee

Councilmember Kring will report on the discussion with Stride Development in her Council Liaison report at the City Council meeting on April 20. The sub-committee will prepare a letter to Stride Development for the Sustainability Commission's review at the May meeting.

- Communications Committee

Andy Hyland reported that he submitted a Mission Magazine article on Climate Action Task Force activities.

VIII. Council Liaison Update

Councilmember Kring mentioned the Council is having a retreat on May 7. Josh Thede and Andy Hyland shared the strategic plan document is what the Sustainability Commission would like to share with the City Council. In particular that progress on the Climate Action Plan is the group's top priority. Ellen Parker suggested that if others have ideas on what they would like put forward, they should mention it at the May Sustainability Commission meeting which will be the week of the retreat.

Councilmember Kring shared that the architects working on the Rushton Elementary design presented to the Community Development Committee. She has asked repeatedly about why the project will not include solar panels and has not been given a satisfactory answer.

IX. Parks, Recreation and Tree Commission Update

Lynn Bain shared an update from the last PRT meeting. She enjoyed attending. Following the meeting, she walked throughout all the parks and visited parks she hadn't known were in Mission.

Cindy Long shared that the PRT will have a retreat on April 18 in order to share goals with the Council. The PRT will soon be installing tree plaques at 15 of the new trees planted in 2021 at the Market, Mohawk and Waterworks Parks. The feasibility study is underway with Pros Consulting. Stakeholder interviews really impressive and shows that the City cares about keeping facility relevant and full of patrons.

SFS Architects adding restrooms and pavilion in Mohawk Park, construction scheduled for summer 2022. There were 68 votes on posters for Arbor Day. The Andersen Park tennis courts are still under construction and Bunny Eggstravaganza and the Citywide Clean-Up are coming up. Josh Thede shared that he enjoyed hearing about the CIP Plan for Parks through 2025 which he felt was a great suggestion for Sustainability with planning and prioritization.

X. City Updates

Emily Randel announced that there will be a citywide clean-up event on Saturday, April 23 from 9-11 a.m. beginning at Beverly Park. Volunteers can sign up as a group or individually. Each participant should complete [the online form](#) to select a t-shirt size.

She shared about the Summer Sneak Peek which will be May 5 from 5-8 p.m. at the Powell Community Center.

She also mentioned that the Facility Conservation Improvement Program projects are going well and the indoor pool is back open and staff should be commended for how they managed through the disruptions.

She also gave a brief mention to the homicide that happened over the weekend and commended the Misson Police Department and partners for how they are working the case.

XI. Reminders and Announcements
Earth Month – get out there!

XII. Review of Action Items

XIII. Adjourn
Andy Hyland moved to adjourn the meeting. Ramsey Attaria seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Sustainability Commission will be in person on Monday, May 2, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.