

MINUTES OF THE MISSION SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Monday, June 6, 2022 - 6:30 P.M.

City Hall

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED

In attendance: John Arnett, Ramsey Attaria, Lynn Bain, Cathy Boyer-Shesol, Ellen Parker, Mike Patterson, Lauren Reiter-Schmid, Josh Thede

Council Liaisons present: Councilmembers Debbie Kring, Councilmember Hillary Parker Thomas

Staff present: Emily Randel, Assistant City Administrator

Guests present: Kevin Schmidt from the Parks, Recreation and Tree Commission

I. Welcome and introductions

Josh Thede welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Zach and Kristen from City Roots Nursery addressed the group following a ribbon cutting for the native plant garden in front of City Hall. They shared the benefits of native plants.

The group members introduced themselves.

II. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Sustainability Moment

Councilmember Kring shared a slide presentation she heard at the Solid Waste Management group of ACE. The owners of the business is available to provide a tour if the Sustainability Commission is interested. Councilmember Hillary Parker Thomas suggested it as an idea for a vendor for the Environmental Fair and that attendees could possibly bring their items to be recycled at the event. Emily Randel will share the slide presentation.

IV. Approval of the May 2, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Cathy Boyer-Shesol moved to approve the meeting minutes. Ramsey Attaria seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

V. Climate Action Task Force Update

Andy Hyland is not available tonight, but Emily Randel reviewed the meeting process. The Task Force has had two meetings out of the initial three that have been scheduled. Emily anticipates additional meetings being scheduled to finalize the priorities and recommendations for the budget development in 2023.

Councilmember Hillary Parker Thomas shared more detail on the mechanics of the organization of the items included in the municipal policy actions. The budget process for the City is just kicking

off so the timing is right for putting dollars behind this priorities. Councilmember Thomas commented on how valuable it has been having representation from every City department.

Josh Thede shared a review of the progress of the categories included in the priorities document. Cathy Boyer-Shesol asked about the alignment of the Comprehensive Plan update. Councilmember Thomas, Josh and Emily confirmed that the alignment is there and that the plan is very top of mind. Josh shared more bigger picture concepts about how climate change is already impacting the Kansas City region. Lauren Reiter-Schmid asked about how Climate Action KC gave indications about low hanging fruit that would have the largest impact. There was additional discussion about how to share feedback to the group.

VI. Environmental Fair Update

Cathy Boyer-Shesol shared an update on the Environmental Fair in Terri Baugh's absence. The fair will be September 17 at the Powell Community Center. John Arnett is contributing to the planning committee with help on logistics. Eco Elvis will participate along with the Green River Band, children's activities and more. John Arnett spoke to the help the City of Mission offered by signing the Community Center rental agreement and to help secure liability coverage for use of the privately-owned parking lot on Beverly Avenue. Volunteers are encouraged to connect and help with the event. Emily Randel will share the website link when it is available.

Emily Randel asked about methods to prevent vendors guilty of greenwashing from attending. She will share the list of native plant vendors who may like to participate.

VII. Sub-Committee

- Communications

Lauren Reiter-Schmid and Mike Patterson spoke to the activities of the Communication Sub-Committee. They will coordinate with Johnson County Recycles staff for an overview of the Recycle Right campaign effort.

- Recycling

Emily Randel shared the recycling workshop videos that are uploaded to YouTube. Councilmember Thomas will mention them at the next City Council meeting. Cathy Boyer-Shesol suggested that the videos were so much work that it would be nice to formally recognize the contributors in some fashion. The Councilmember liaisons will share the videos at the next City Council meeting.

John Arnett invited the members of the Sustainability Commission to sort batteries at 6 p.m. before each Sustainability Commission meeting. The group should plan for how to celebrate the milestone of diverting 2 tons of batteries.

- Sustainability Scorecard

Josh Thede will schedule a meeting this month. There will be two projects presenting to the July 11 meeting. The 58Nall project as well as the We have two projects coming to the July 11 meeting, the 58 Nall project by A Moffitt Company and the Block project at Foxridge Drive and 56th Street.

- Communities for All Ages

There will be a virtual affordable housing webinar on August 9 from 9-10:30 a.m. The sub-committee will prioritize evaluating the communications list that the committee completed previously so that some of the recommendations can be implemented in coordination with the communications sub-committee.

VIII. Parks, Recreation and Tree Commission Update

Kevin Schmidt shared an announcement about the tennis courts ribbon cutting that will be June 15 at 6:15 p.m.

Parks and Recreation sales tax discussions are underway. The PRT recommended asking voters for keeping the tax at the same rate for renewal.

Lunch laps will start at the Mission Family Aquatic Center on June 15 from 11-noon.

The feasibility study survey for the Powell Community Center is now open.

Kevin Schmit will share a study policy recommendations that he did in conjunction with City of Long Beach, NY.

IX. Council Liaison Update

Councilmember Kring shared that Ripple Glass is adding ten more bins in Johnson County. Olathe is considering a food waste facility collaboration with Missouri Organics.

Councilmember Thomas shared that the City Council will be voting on renewal of the 3/8 cent sales tax. There will be updates on the 58Nall multi-family project and the budget process is underway. Work on Mohawk Park will begin soon.

X. Staff Updates

Emily Randel shared an update on upcoming special events, the opening of the Mission Family Aquatic Center, the street program, the Rock Creek repair project and the Merriam Connected Corridor effort.

XI. Reminders and Announcements

Independence Day will be on July 4, so the Sustainability Commission meeting will move to July 11, the second Monday of the month at City Hall.

The group congratulated Josh Thede for being named in Consulting–Specifying Engineer Magazine’s 40 Under 40 list.

XII. Review of Action Items

XIII. Adjourn

John Arnett moved to adjourn the meeting. Mike Patterson seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Sustainability Commission will be in person at Mission City Hall on Monday, July 11, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.