

## MINUTES OF THE MISSION SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Monday, April 3, 2023 - 6:30 P.M.

City Hall

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

Council Liaison present: Councilmember Debbie Kring

Staff present: Emily Randel, Deputy City Administrator

Guests present: David Smith, Roeland Park Sustainability Commission; Angela Vandegrift, Mission Parks and Recreation Commission, Rachel Meier, Lotus Engineering and Sustainability

### I. Welcome and introductions

Ellen Parker welcomed everyone to the meeting and everyone introduced themselves.

### II. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

### III. Greenhouse Gas Inventory Story Map Discussion - Lotus Engineering & Sustainability

Rachel Meier from Lotus Engineering and Sustainability joined the group remotely. Lotus is the firm that is conducting the update to Mission's greenhouse gas inventory. Rachel led a discussion about goals for the deliverables for the inventory. In particular, she was curious to confirm the audience for the story map. The group confirmed the audience includes the citizens of Mission, both home owners and renters, and elected officials who will consider where we are and where we want to go. The Climate Action Plan Task Force set Net-Zero emissions goals for municipal operations (2025), energy generation (2035) and for the community (2035) and tying the inventory results to the Task Force's goals will be very helpful. The group discussed the possibility of sharing the results with those administering grant funding as well as those doing similar work in the region as well as business owners, academic entities, students and City staff as they will be informing future action.

Andy Hyland shared that even if the news is not entirely positive, the group should not be afraid to share that news. Everyone is working together for progress and can learn from each other.

The contract with Lotus included the entering the updated data into the ICLEI ClearPath database. The City recently renewed its ICLEI membership. Rachel Meier shared what ICLEI can provide the City as part of membership including planning for emission reduction strategies and one-on-one technical assistance. They can provide Mission with a High-Impact Action summary that gives an example pathway to achieving Science-based targets that represent Mission's share of meeting the Paris Agreement commitment to keep warming below 1.5 degree Celsius.

Summarizing the discussion, Rachel suggested including a review of goals versus progress toward those goals and trends from 2008 and 2022, current initiatives, and accomplishments of

municipal operations, and tying the City's inventory to regional progress. Lotus can also include high level initiatives that citizens can do themselves to decarbonize.

#### IV. Sustainability Moment

Councilmember Kring shared travel photographs and information about her recent trip to the Galapagos Islands.

#### V. Approval of the March 6, 2023 Meeting Minutes

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

#### VI. Climate Action Update

Emily Randel shared that the MARC Climate Environment Council will host a meeting in April of the sustainability/climate action point people from as many cities in the metro as possible. This will be a starting point for more coordinated action in the future.

Ellen Parker and Terri Baugh shared the findings from their outreach to the Cities of Prairie Village and Merriam about their energy audit programs. Full funding for the energy audits seems popular. The group discussed ways to spread information about the benefits of energy audits and subsequent home improvements as widely as possible. Emily will create a straightforward online form to solicit interest from the public and will be reaching out to three recommended audit contractors to see if they are interested in participating.

#### VII. Sub-Committee Updates

- Communities for All Ages

(Cathy Boyer-Shesol, John Arnett, Ellen Parker)

There was no update other than the upcoming article on Aging Services for the Mission Magazine.

- Recycling

(Terri Baugh, Josh Thede, Mike Patterson, Lynn Bain)

Terri Baugh shared the most recent restrictions on recycling some plastics. Mike Patterson volunteered to research the matter more fully ahead of the Smart Recycling Workshop on April 19. Terri Baugh, Mike Patterson and Andy Hyland will be volunteering at the recycling table at Bunny Eggstravaganza.

- Communications

(Andy Hyland, Lauren Reiter-Schmid, Mike Patterson)

Andy Hyland will create an article on the aging services and Emily Randel will see about including the phone number included on the bulletin board in the Mission Magazine.

- Sustainability Scorecard

(Josh Thede, Ramsey Attaria, Mike Patterson, Lauren Reiter-Schmid, Andy Hyland, Terri Baugh)  
Josh Thede

Josh Thede agreed to share an overview of items from the Sustainability Scorecard that could be considered in the redesign of Waterworks Park. He will send those via email to staff.

#### VIII. Standing Updates

- Parks, Recreation and Tree Commission Update

Angela Vandegrift reported on the recent activities including the progress on Mohawk Park Phase I improvements and the design activities around Waterworks Park and the other recent activities of the Parks, Recreation and Tree Commission. The PRT will be presenting an update to the City Council soon.

Josh Thede shared that he attended the UMKC student presentation on the Rock Creek Trail, focused on existing conditions on the section of the trail west of Woodson. The research and presentation was very well done and the potential for increasing regular use of the trail is very strong. Emily Randel shared the project survey via email for everyone to complete.

- Council Liaison report

Councilmember Kring shared a report from the National League of Cities in Washington D.C. that included an enormous amount of information about the grant funding that is currently available.

Councilmember Kring reminded the group of the Citywide Clean-Up day on April 22.

- Staff Updates

There were no additional staff updates.

#### IX. Reminders and Announcements

Sign-up for the Earth Day clean-up is now live. Participants are invited to sign up online. If the members of the Sustainability Commission would like to sign up, they should just mention the S.C. to be assigned together.

#### X. Review of Action Items

#### XI. Adjourn

John Arnett moved to adjourn the meeting. Josh Thede seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Sustainability Commission will be in person at Mission City Hall on Monday, May 1, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.