

MINUTES OF THE MISSION SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Monday, September 11, 2023 - 6:30 P.M.

City Hall

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

Council Liaison present: Councilmember Debbie Kring, Councilmember Hillary Parker Thomas
Staff present: Emily Randel, Deputy City Administrator

Guests: Harper Thomas, Mission Resident

I. Welcome and introductions

Ellen Parker welcomed everyone to the meeting.

II. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Sustainability Moment

Lynn Bain reported on her first ever trip on the new RideKC bus route, Route 487. She was very impressed by the destinations along the route, but disappointed though not surprised about the lack of ridership.

Lynn also shared that she and her husband purchased an infrared thermal leak detector and measured different locations around her home and noticed the most significant leak near her attic doors.

Josh Thede shared his certificate from the Kansas Community Heat Watch Event. He and John Arnett drove a route through Olathe for an hour to map the urban heat island as part of the larger regional effort in Johnson and Wyandotte Counties.

IV. Sustainability Scorecard

The Scorecard sub-committee met and is recommending a score of 60 for Sunflower Development Group's Phase II project. That score is enough to earn a gold rating. The Commission recommended one edit to the letter to clarify that just one of the significant items on the additional list would be enough to reconsider a platinum score. These are: Officially obtain LEED Silver 3rd party certification, Commitment to building to solar readiness code, or implementation of on-site renewable energy, like solar, Improved integration of shade trees and native plantings in landscaping designs, to further promote walkability and reduce watering needs, respectively, Implementation of Universal Design standards in apartment units and throughout common areas, where applicable

Andy Hyland moved and Josh Thede seconded to share the letter as edited and forward to the developer, City Council, staff and Planning Commission. The motion passed.

V. Meeting Minutes

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

VI. Retreat Planning

A sub-committee met and will model this year's retreat after the previous retreat. Lauren Reiter-Schmid sent a Doodle Poll to the group to choose among a Saturday in October through early December. It was agreed that the Council liaisons would be invited to participate in the retreat.

VII. Sub-Committee Updates

- Communities for All Ages

Cathy Boyer-Shesol shared that the sub-committee met to review priority items from the Checklist, and Cathy and Emily Randel met to discuss City staff priority items. The list of the priority projects has been circulated by Cathy. John Arnett will be organizing a presentation in October from the Fire Marshall on the topic of pre-arrival instructions with the "Vial of Life" program.

- Recycling/Environmental Fair

Terri Baugh shared an update on Environmental Fair including the switch in electronics recycling and the cancelling of the entertainment. 47 exhibitors have confirmed and the steering committee has great door prizes collected. The Sustainability Commission will have a table. Ellen Parker will send out an email to organize the shift volunteers.

- Communications

Andy Hyland shared that the group will work on Communities for All Ages messaging.

VIII. Standing Updates

- Park, Recreation and Tree Commission update

Ellen Parker shared that she spoke to Nicole Sullivan about the purchase and placement of a tree. The leading suggestion following discussion was to replace the tree at the Market site where a previous tree was damaged and a stump remains near the southwest corner of the Johnson Drive and Maple St. Intersection. It was agreed that the group did not care for funds to be spent on a plaque.

- Council Liaison Updates

Councilmembers Hillary Parker Thomas and Debbie Kring shared updates on passing the 2024 budget, the Popeye's project and the decision to make arrangements for a new code enforcement abatement contractor. Councilmember Kring will attend Johnson County Solid Waste Management Committee meeting and will share an update.

Emily Randel and Councilmember Thomas shared the highlights from the 2024 budget that are focused on sustainability.

- Staff Updates

Emily Randel shared about the Climate Action KC resilience and mitigation workshops last week. Those who attended the Climate Summit shared their takeaways including the Funding, Capacity, Vision Venn diagram, the interest in possibly touring the passive home, and generally shared extremely positive feedback about the Summit overall.

IX. Reminders and Announcements

X. Review of Action Items

XI. Adjourn

Lauren moved to adjourn the meeting. Cathy seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Sustainability Commission will be in person at Mission City Hall on Monday, October 2, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.