

MINUTES OF THE MISSION SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Monday, February 5, 2024 - 6:30 P.M.

Mission City Hall

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED

In attendance: John Arnett, Ramsey Attaria, Terri Baugh, Cathy Boyer-Shesol, Lynn Bain, Jenn Doppelt, Ellen Parker, Lauren Reiter-Schmid, Josh Thede

Council Liaison present: Councilmember Lea Loudon

Staff present: None

Guests: Amber Voyles and Mackenzie Juergens seniors at SMN, Sam Komosa from PRT, Alexa Root, Mission resident.

I. Welcome and introductions

Ellen Parker welcomed everyone including the new City Council liaison and guests to the meeting with an ice breaker.

II. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Sustainability Commission Leadership for 2024

Cathy Boyer-Shesol nominated Lauren Reiter-Schmid for Sustainability Commission Chair. Terri Baugh seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Josh Thede nominated Ramsey Attaria for Sustainability Commission Vice Chair. Ellen Parker seconded the motion. Discussion: Reminder that it's typical that the Vice Chair follows the role as Chair which is good for continuity. The motion passed.

IV. Sustainability Moment – Josh Thede shared that he went to the KS State Capitol to participate in WEALTH (Water, Energy, Air, Land Transportation & Health) Day which is put on by Sierra Club and other environmental groups. It was a great day of discussing issues and talking with legislators. There is a bipartisan net metering bill moving in Topeka.

V. Approval of the January 8, 2024, meeting minutes

- John Arnett moved to approve the meeting minutes. Cathy Boyer-Shesol seconded the motion. The motion passed.

VI. Strategic Planning/Retreat Follow-Up

- Lauren led a discussion on the goals developed by the December retreat – reviewed the latest draft of the 2024-2025 goals. Finalized the goals.
- Terry Baugh moved that we approve the goals as written, Josh Thede seconded the motion. The Commission approved the motion.
- The group thanked Lauren and Ellen for their work to distill the retreat into goals.

- Next step is to work with staff to update the Sustainability Commission's one pager with Vision, Mission, Guiding Principles, and Goals.

VII. Sustainability Commission Budget for 2024.

- Lauren led a discussion on the budget. She walked through the 2023 budget and actuals. The battery recycling program expenditure needed modified. The group reviewed the proposed 2024 budget as compared to last year's budget and walked through each item. The reduction of holiday light recycling in 2023 was discussed but decided to keep that budget item.
 - New items: bring back sponsorship of Go Green Environmental Fair, ICLEI Annual Subscription, Communication Sub-Committee Expenses.
 - ICLEI provides staff with expert advice and allows the city to compare itself to other cities. This would help with accountability, monitoring, and tracking. Should have a discussion with Justin on whether this item should be wholly a city expense. Reduced this line item.
 - Discussion around communications sub-committee budget. Decided to reduce this item.
 - Discussion around tree line item. Reduced this amount. Ideas shared around seeking donations for trees and maybe partnering with PRT on this effort.

VIII. Sub-Committee Updates

- Communities for All Ages – MARC video should be prepared by March (that will need 15 min.). The committee needs to meet to review the goals and communications strategy.
- Recycling – Holiday light recycling update.
- Communications – discussed the gap left by our previous communications sub-committee chair. Idea shared to consider approaching North AP English teacher to see if any students would be willing to help the commission with Mission Magazine articles or other writing needs. Josh, Ellen and Lynn volunteered to join the sub-committee.
- Scorecard – Milhaus development advice was passed to staff and on to the council. Haven't heard back on the council presentation. Josh explained what the scorecard is and how it works.

IX. Standing Updates

- Park, Recreation and Tree Commission update
 - Sam provided an update – they are planning and developing priorities.
 - Broke ground on Jan. 23 at Waterworks Park. Pushing to cut the ribbon when the new Rushton building opens.
 - Arbor Day contest voting happened last week.
 - Moved meetings to the second Monday of the month.
- Council Liaison Updates – no update.

- Staff Updates – no update. Lauren updated the group on the City of Mission Climate Action Task Force – Lotus gave an update on the carbon emissions inventory and gave a few big ideas.

X. Reminders and Announcements

- March for Sustainability Commission update to the council.

XI. Review of Action Items

XII. Adjourn

- Josh Thede moved to adjourn the meeting. John Arnett seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Sustainability Commission will be in person at Mission City Hall on Monday, March 4, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.