

## **Sustainability Commission Minutes**

Monday, May 2, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

Mission City Hall

In attendance: Manny Trillo, John Arnett, Terri Baugh, David Greenlee, Andy Hyland, Bill Nichols, Absent: Paul Pattee

Guests: Tim O'Brien, City of Prairie Village Environmental Committee; Cara Markham, Mission resident; Steve Mulder, Mission resident

Staff present: Emily Randel

### **I. Welcome and Introductions**

The group welcomed the guests in the audience.

### **II. Approval of the April 4, 2016 minutes**

Bill Nichols moved to approve the minutes and Andy Hyland seconded the motion. The group passed the minutes unanimously with the correction of one minor typo that Manny Trillo brought to the group's attention.

### **III. Tom O'Brien, City of Prairie Village Environment and Recycle Committee**

Tom O'Brien thanked the group for allowing him to share at the meeting. The City of Prairie Village Environmental Committee has been interested in meeting with similar groups in the area to learn more about projects or potential opportunities for collaboration. The group has existed since the 1980s and works on three main events each year:

- Prairie Village Earth Fair held around Earth Day at Shawnee Mission East High School. A free event that receives approximately 1,000 visitors, with a trade show format for eco-friendly businesses and environmental organizations and exhibits.
- The Community Forum held at the Village Presbyterian Church each October. The event focuses on environmental issues in Kansas. A list of past forum topics is available [here](#).
- VillageFest on July 4th.

The group also serves as a funnel for environmental issues to Council such as textile recycling and the reduction of plastic bag use in the city. Tom invited the group to attend a meeting of their group on the fourth Wednesday of each month at Prairie Village City Hall at 5:30 p.m. Mission Sustainability Commission members also may like to volunteer or attend their events.

### **IV. Sustainability Scorecard development, continued**

The group reviewed the history of the Scorecard for the guests in the audience. The last project to use the Scorecard was the Gateway project. The group would like to request a few clarifying questions about the project before presenting a score of their own to the project, but agreed to wait for clarification until more is known about the plans and timing for the project. Cara Marham in the audience shared that she has been speaking recently with Tom Valenti about her thoughts about the project. The group agreed to keep the meeting's discussion focused on the Scorecard itself and not the details of the Gateway development.

The revised Scorecard still needs a scoring system. After some discussion about the best approach, the group agreed to the following homework before the next meeting:

Each member will provide a possible point range for each item in all three project scenarios between 1-12. A higher possible number of points will indicate that the item is valued more highly than those with lower point ranges. Each member will report his/her numbers at the June meeting and they will be averaged. The group can review and discuss any items where there are wide discrepancies in the suggested point ranges.

Emily will also draft a cover letter to accompany the Scorecard to prepare for discussion on how the Scorecard will be promoted and shared with the development community and others.

#### **V. Battery Recycling - Next Steps**

Terri Baugh summarized email conversations since the April meeting. Wholesale Batteries does not recycle alkaline batteries returned to them. MRC is not interested in the City's collection unless it would also come with additional electronics. Most of the group agreed that it was still desirable to offer the public this recycling option, especially because there seems to be such a demand. The group also agreed that even with the higher price, The Green Box option provides the best convenience and the most reliable (though self-reported) recycling option. John Arnett made a motion that the Sustainability Commission continue using The Green Box option and will review the volume of batteries collected monthly. Terri Baugh seconded the motion. The motion passed, with Bill Nichols voting against the motion.

#### **VI. Sustainability Commission Budget Update**

Emily Randel shared a budget update for expenses to date in 2016.

The total expenses in 2016 are:

Two original battery recycling boxes: \$120 (reported at the March meeting)

Drop-off battery recycling with Wholesale Battery, Inc: \$36 (reported at the April meeting)

Sustainability Commission name badges: \$60 (reported at the April meeting)

Total remaining: \$4,784 (No new charges since the April meeting)

#### **VII. New Business**

Emily shared information about the Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMP) program available through the City and shared about the Food Truck Kick-Off Party on Tuesday, May 3 and the Mission Farm and Flower Market opening day on May 7.

#### **VIII. Adjourn**

John Arnett moved to adjourn the meeting and David Greenlee seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:11p.m.

**The Sustainability Commission will meet on Monday, June 6 at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall.**