

## **Sustainability Commission Minutes**

Monday, March 6, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Mission City Hall

In attendance: John Arnett, Terri Baugh, David Greenlee, Andy Hyland, Steve Mulder, Sean Partain, Manny Trillo

Absent: Bill Nichols

Staff present: Emily Randel

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

### **II. Approval of the February 6, 2017 minutes**

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

### **III. Review of Sustainability Scorecard Definitions**

John Arnett and Emily Randel met following the February meeting to evaluate the existing Sustainability Scorecard and which items on the Scorecard could be improved by more detailed descriptions or definitions. They reviewed the redevelopment project section in particular and found that even after the revisions done by the Sustainability Commission in 2016, there were still several items that were either redundant or not applicable to the understood core goals the group has for the of the exercise.

Emily suggested the addition of a narrative section for several of the broad targets that the Commission would like projects to address, and possibly even removing the scoring for each item. Scoring might be overcomplicating the true aims of the exercise. Andy voiced support for continuing to score the project responses, including the narrative section, and even if just internally. John Arnett agreed with continuing to score, but wanted to reiterate that the process is designed to avoid being punitive in any way. Sean Partain suggested fewer categories, with more broad emphasis.

Emily shared that she had recently spoken to Sadie Gardner, coordinator of the Certified Green Business program at Johnson County. The program currently evaluates existing businesses in their progress toward sustainability in several areas, but will soon be revamped to focus solely on waste diversion. This leaves an opening for the Sustainability Scorecard to perhaps focus on one of the other areas, such as energy efficiency. The City's Business Improvement Grant already includes an energy efficiency component, and the Scorecard could build on that. Terri Baugh mentioned that KCPL made a rebate available in January 2017 for Kansas businesses. The group agreed to wait to evaluate the revisions to the County's program, and then reevaluate. It could be very beneficial to direct existing businesses interested in increasing their waste diversion due to the technical expertise and staffing at the County level.

### **IV. Budget Brainstorming for 2017**

The group started the discussion about what projects would be a valuable use of the \$5,000 budgeted in 2017. Andy Hyland suggested stepping back from individual project ideas to think bigger about what the group would like to improve. There was a discussion about the support of the “market bucks” in 2016, the vouchers used as a promotion for the Mission Farm and Flower Market. The group generally believes that the project was a worthy endeavor, but the discussion to fund the bucks didn’t necessarily start with an explicit review of how the project supported the group’s values.

Emily suggested a short writing assignment for each member to note what they would like to see the Sustainability Commission achieve. The group refined the questions to answer in the writing assignment: “What do I want to see the group improve in Mission” and “How should we make a difference?” and thinking ahead to the end of 2017, “At the end of the year, what did we do to make Mission more sustainable?”

Each member should write a bit on those questions and email the responses to Emily no later than Monday, March 27.

#### **V. Battery Recycling Update and program discussion**

The group agreed to postpone the battery recycling program discussion since Bill Nichols was absent and had been the member to request the discussion. The group did approve to purchase five more recycling boxes at total cost of \$290 minus a 10% discount the company provided via email. Andy made the motion and Terri seconded. The demand has been roughly for one box per month.

#### **VI. New Business.**

Emily shared about the upcoming scavenger hunt event on May 18, JoCoGo! The Northeast Johnson County Chamber of Commerce is coordinating the event and the City of Mission and the Mission Business Partnership are the presenting sponsors. Andy, John, Manny and David agreed to form a team.

Emily asked the group if they would be interested in volunteering with outreach for a Confident City Cycling Class hosted by BikeWalkKC. It’s a packaged curriculum, but has not been hosted in Mission so far. BikeWalkKC is in discussions with Rushton Elementary School to incorporate bike riding and safety classes into their physical education curriculum. The group seemed favorable to volunteering. Emily will keep in contact with BikeWalkKC and will let the group know if and when a date is set, and any volunteering opportunities.

#### **VII. Adjourn**

Manny Trillo moved to adjourn the meeting. Andy Hyland seconded the motion. The meeting ended at 7:45 p.m. just as the storm broke!

**The Sustainability Commission will meet on Monday, April 3 at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall.**