

Sustainability Commission Minutes

Monday, September 11, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Mission City Hall

In attendance: John Arnett, Terri Baugh, Sollie Flora, Josh Thede, Sean Partain

Staff present: Emily Randel

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chair John Arnett welcomed everyone to the meeting, including the new members recently appointed, Sollie Flora and Josh Thede. Emily Randel will update the group roster and redistribute to everyone.

There was a brief discussion about battery recycling, following the group sorting another box before the meeting. Emily Randel confirmed that there is information about the battery recycling on the City's website, but the number of total pounds recycled is out of date. The group reiterated support for a "Sustainability Corner" that would be included in each issue of the newsletter in the Mission Magazine. Terri Baugh mentioned that a good topic would be a reminder that hearing aid batteries can be recycled, but that all lithium batteries need to be taped or individually bagged to reduce fire risk. Emily suggested that a section about recycling education would complement the Commission's presence at the Mission Farm and Flower Market in October.

II. Approval of the August 7, 2017 minutes

Terri moved to approve the minutes. Sean seconded the motion. The group approved the minutes.

III. Review of the finalized goal sheet

John Arnett led a discussion on the third and fourth sections of the goal document. The Commission had previously reviewed the first two sections at the August meeting. The document is meant to guide the Commission, but also is meant to represent the group's work to an external audience. The Sustainability Commission anticipates presenting progress on the goals to the City Council in February 2018 in keeping with their goals of better visibility and alignment with other City efforts.

Number 3: Execute our charge to serve as advisers to the City Council

The most comprehensive update with the City Council will happen as the group updates them on goals and activities of the past year. The update is scheduled at this time for the Wednesday, February 7 committee meetings.

Advocacy can play an important role as well, supporting sustainable development practices with the Sustainability Scorecard, voicing support for Safe Routes to Schools, collaborating with the Parks, Recreation, and Tree Commission and other groups to amplify priorities of the combined

groups. The Sustainability Commission can also work with City departments supporting energy efficiency, LED street lights, solar power at the Community Center, etc.

Number 4: Continue to increase visibility

The group agreed that education will be a key component to visibility and outreach. The Sustainability Commission could host events of interest to the public, or a BetterBlocks event, or attend GreenDrinks or other regional sustainability events. Josh Thede mentioned he is a member of the local chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council and they have tours and monthly events.

Emily Randel suggested that she can list the suggested activities under each goal for regular review and notes of progress throughout the year to track in advance of reporting to the City Council.

IV. Finalize plan for recycling education tent at Farmers Market

The Sustainability Commission has reserved the Community Tent at the Mission Farm and Flower Market Saturday, October 14. Terri Baugh will bring examples of items to show to the public for discussion about how and what to recycle. Terri will coordinate volunteers between any of the Commissioners who are available. She plans to be there the whole time from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. (maybe slightly earlier to allow for set-up). Emily Randel will buy candy for the group to use as a “hook” and conversation starter.

Josh Thede moved that the Sustainability Commission purchase up to \$30 of candy for the Mission Farm and Flower Market. Sollie Flora seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

V. Communities for All Ages Discussion

Emily Randel reviewed that she will be submitted an application on November 1 for the next level (Gold) of recognition for the Mid-America Regional Council’s Communities for All Ages (CFAA). The Sustainability Commission had previously gone through the CFAA checklist in a series of meetings two years ago. Emily asked the group if they would like to go through the checklist and identify a few goals that seemed particularly important or timely for improvement. The group supported the idea and decided to devote the majority of the October 2 Sustainability Commission meeting to this work, and may decide to meet from 6-8:30 p.m. for an extra hour of time to review a draft application and suggest other items. The group members are encouraged to come to the October meeting with their checklist items already identified.

VI. Battery recycling update

Emily shared the battery recycling tracking sheet. Since February 2016, the program has turned in 688 pounds of batteries for recycling and spent \$1,267 on 22 battery boxes and one drop off at a local recycling business.

VII. Budget Review

| Purchase | Cost | Month Reported |
|--|------------|--------------------------------------|
| Big Green Box replacements (5) | \$261 | April - Reported mistakenly as \$252 |
| Battery Sorting Disposable Gloves (40) | \$5.76 | April |
| D’Bronx Pizza for May 8 Retreat | \$68.50 | May |
| HyVee Snacks for Cycling Class #1 | \$29.94 | June |
| HyVee Snacks for Cycling Class #2 and #3 | \$27.34 | July |
| Big Green Box replacements (5) | \$290.00 | August |
| Recycling Bins (3) | \$2,453.73 | September |
| TOTAL SPENT: \$3,136.27 | | |
| TOTAL REMAINING: \$1,863.73 | | |

VIII. New Business

There was no new business.

IX. Adjourn

Sean Partain moved to adjourn the meeting. Sollie Flora seconded the motion. The meeting ended at 8:09 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Sustainability Commission will be on Monday, October 2, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.