



Green Practices Commission

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Meeting Minutes – University City Green Practices Commission

March 12, 2015

DRAFT

Location: Heman Park Community Center
Attendees Present: Lois Sechrist, Dianne Benjamin, Bob Elgin, Richard Juang, Tim Michels, Scott Eidson, Jenny Wendt (staff Liaison), Steve Kraft (Council Liaison)
Guest: Callie Vail, Amanda Wycinowski
Absent Excused: Jeff Mishkin

1. Meeting called to Order, Roll Call at 6:04 p.m.
2. Opening Round
 - a) Lois commented on the Recycling Extravaganza at Forest Park Community College on April 26.
 - b) Tim has been working with the USGBC developing and getting info for a “Tech Talk” regarding community solar.
 - c) Bob attended a meeting on ICC 2005 building codes. He indicated the regulations are still like the 1970s. There was no comment regarding the Green ICC. Bob will check on this.
 - d) Jenny indicated she sent a reminder to Rich Wilson to remind staff of the no-idling policy. She also sent a request to change the no-idling ordinance.
 - e) Mr. Kraft indicated the ordinance regarding mosquito control has changed so that there will be no mosquito spray allowed by the City or the County in University City. Only larvicide is allowed to be used. He also suggested reaching out to other municipalities and to the St. Louis County reps to encourage a larvicide only policy.
3. February 12, 2015 Green Practices Commission Meeting Minutes were approved with minor changes.
4. Special Presentations
 - a) Public Comments: Calli Vail discussed a need to clean up the area on Olive, vacant lots, and the Music neighborhoods. She would like to organize clean-up events but would like support from the City through donations of gloves and bags, and collection of bags of trash. She would also like to know of any other possible organizations that could help in this. Mr. Kraft and Jenny will make sure Calli gets in contact with the Chamber of Commerce.
5. New Business
 - a. The group brainstormed ideas for the upcoming state loan opportunity which opens in April 2015. The group came up with the following ideas to look into to determine feasibility:

- 2 more pool pumps
 - Solar Panels at the firehouses, library, and parking garage
 - Retrofit historical street lights with LED
 - Retrofitting Ameren owned streetlighting with historic poles
- b. The City applied for a KAB (Keep America Beautiful) grant for recycling containers.
 - c. The group discussed the recycling Drop-Off area design/flood study. It was suggested to contact a civil engineer or Architect. SWT was suggested as an option.
6. Old Business
- a. The group discussed the Loop commercial recycling program start-up/St. Louis County Grant opportunity. Creating a city-wide mandatory commercial recycling program was discussed. Scott and Richard will look into this from a legal standpoint.
 - b. The weed ordinance passed.
7. Reports
- a. Lois Sechrist did not report on Land Use/ Open Space/ Parks.
 - b. Tim Michels suggested passing an ordinance to creating a “Clean Energy Development Board” in conjunction with the Property Assessment Clean Energy Act (PACE). The goal of the ordinance would be for the City to stand as an example proving that investments in energy efficiency and renewable energy are cost effective. A goal of the City and the UC-GPC should be to become Net Carbon Neutral by 2025. An example ordinance was viewed by the group. It was suggested to compare this ordinance with the City of St. Louis PACE ordinance. Richard will gather info on PACE and let us know from a legal standpoint.
 - c. Councilmember Kraft discussed the roundabout and trolley project. The roundabout is to be completed first. The whole project should take 12 – 14 months (weather permitting). Track work will start in May. Then there will be a testing phase and the trolley is supposed to be operational September/October 2016.
8. Closing Round
- a. Mr. Kraft congratulated the commission on its success.
 - b. Bob indicated he would like an energy walkthrough of his home.
9. Adjournment: 7:42pm