



Green Practices Commission

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Meeting Minutes – University City Green Practices Commission

June 11, 2015

Location: Heman Park Community Center
Attendees Present: Dianne Benjamin, Bob Elgin, Tim Michels, Jenny Wendt (Staff Liaison), Lois Sechrist
Absent Excused: Jeff Mishkin, Richard Juang, Scott Eidson, Steve Kraft (Council Liaison)
Guests: Janna White (Intern)

1. Meeting called to Order, Roll Call at 6:10 p.m.
2. Opening Round
 - a) Janna White introduced herself. She is working on recycling programs with the University City School District and will meet with Karl Scheidt, the District facility manager.
 - b) Jenny's comments:
 - i) She asked if University City has a low income weatherization program and was directed to the Community Action Agency of St. Louis County (<http://www.caastlc.org/>).
 - ii) The 3rd Ward had a clean-up day at Midland/ Olive and in the 6500 block of Etzel, both organized by residents. Trash bags and other supplies were provided by University City.
 - iii) Trash and recycling containers have been placed on Olive Blvd.
 - iv) Janna White, studying in the University of Missouri Environmental Studies program, is interning with Jenny.
 - c) Lois was quoted in an article on Ascension green practices in an article published in *Greenhealth* journal.
3. May 14, 2015 Green Practices Commission Meeting Minutes approved with one amendment to item 2e.
4. Special Presentations
 - a) There were no special presentations.
5. New Business
 - a) Trash collection – rollout carts/private hauler
 - i) Washington University is discontinuing University City trash service and moving to a private hauler. This will double trash truck traffic in residential areas. The private hauler's trucks and University City trucks will now travel down streets where there are both University City and Washington University properties.
 - ii) Jenny will contact Cheryl Adelstein with Washington University to see if a compromise can be reached.

- iii) The Commission voted to advise changing the city ordinance to eliminate the opt-out option for roll-out carts so that service will remain with University City with the purpose of reducing our carbon footprint.
- b) Missouri Energy Efficiency Plan delay
 - i) The plan has been delayed to allow additional public input.
- c) Noise pollution – A Citizen concern about noise issues was sent to Lois Sechrist
 - i) Commission members have had experience with noise pollution such as gas-powered leaf blowers, lawn equipment, barking dogs, and noise from industrial businesses.
 - ii) Commission members determined this is not under the purview of Green Practices, however.
 - iii) Jenny will check with Andrea and Zach if this can be addressed with the City noise ordinance.

6. Old Business

- a) Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Program

The Green Practices Commission recommends that University City issue a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) from the available PACE programs in Missouri, select one, and investigate ordinances necessary to implement PACE in University City.
- b) Yard Waste discussion was tabled to the next meeting.
 - i) The discussion concerns eliminating yard waste stickers. Paying for this would raise residential trash bills less than \$1.00 per month. No yard bag pickup would occur during the winter months.
- c) Commercial Recycling ordinance update was tabled to the next meeting.
- d) Olive Business District Street Lights was tabled to the next meeting for discussion and a vote.
 - i) Jenny and Janna will research.
 - ii) University City can ask Ameren to remove the existing street lights with Missouri Department of Transportation approval.
 - iii) The Commission may recommend a feasibility study for this project.
 - iv) The project would have a payback of less than 15 years, which meets the energy ordinance criteria.
- e) Website – Tabled to the next meeting with no update
- f) University City Electronics Recycling Event: June 27th from 9 am to Noon at the Heman Park Community Center
- g) Monarch Waystation update –
 - i) Future waystations are planned to be east of the University City Dog Park on Vernon and at Jackson Park Elementary School.
 - ii) Wildflower seeds can be purchased from Missouri Wildflowers (<http://www.mowildflowers.net/>) and will deliver to Kirkwood Farmers' Market. Information on butterfly gardens is available from the Butterfly House (<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/visit/family-of-attractions/butterfly-house/butterflies-and-plants/butterfly-gardening.aspx>)
 - iii) The topic was tabled to the next meeting for further discussion.
- h) Energy Ordinance
 - a. Jenny will work to ensure that City staff are familiar with the University City Energy Ordinance, including educational opportunities; Third Party (Enhanced) Commissioning; and adherence to the 15 year or less investment payback timeframe.

7. Reports – Tabled to next meeting. The standard reporting cycle will resume in July.
8. Closing Round
 - a) The Earthways Green Homes festival is on June 20th at the Butterfly House. The annual Green Government Meet-up is 9 – 10:30 am and festivities from 10:30 am – 4 pm.
9. Adjournment: 7:39 pm