



Green Practices Commission

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Meeting Minutes – University City Green Practices Commission

August 13, 2015

DRAFT

Location: Heman Park Community Center
Attendees Present: Dianne Benjamin, Tim Michels, Jeff Mishkin, Richard Juang, Steve Kraft (Council Liaison), Jenny Wendt (Staff Liaison)

Absent Excused: Lois Sechrist, Scott Eidson, Bob Elgin
Guests: Jean Ponzi

1. Meeting called to Order, Roll Call at 6:05 p.m.
2. Opening Round
 - a) Jeff attended a University City Chamber of Commerce meeting event at Momo's Greek Restaurant.
 - b) Dianne announced the Native Landscaping Open House at Centennial Commons August 29th from 5 – 7 pm.
 - c) Dianne also passed around an example seed packet with name stake received from Missouri Botanical Gardens. The Butterfly House, Missouri Botanical Gardens supplies these.
 - d) PACE program
 - i) Tim indicated that Byron DeLear and Tom Appelbaum with Energy Equity Funding have developed a PACE ordinance for St. Louis County. The ordinance will pass August 18th for all St. Louis County property.
 - ii) University City does not need to include this in the ordinance as the St. Louis County program will encompass all University City property.
 - iii) Economic Development will need to promote the St. Louis County PACE program as well.
 - e) Community Solar
 - i) Tim spoke about the Ameren community solar (concept) program. A private entity can create a solar array and sell shares to individuals. .
 - ii) Ameren's role in this project is unclear.
 - iii) Tim suggested that the parking lot North of Cicero's would be a good location for solar panels.
 - f) Jenny attended a Regional Chamber & Growth Green Business Challenge meeting at Forest Park. Topics included Project Clear and other water quality programs and solutions.
 - g) Steve Kraft suggested that the GPC cancel August meetings in future years as most other commissions have done the same.
3. Approval of Minutes – Tabled – No Quorum
4. Special Presentations
 - a) Jean Ponzi, Green Resources Manager, Missouri Botanical Garden EarthWays

Center, recommended that University City join the Green Cities Challenge pilot program in lieu of the Green Business Challenge.

- i) The Green Cities Challenge would be similar to the Green Business Challenge but specific to constraints and policies of city governments.
 - ii) August 27th is the kick-off meeting. The pilot program will be 4 months long. The full program will begin in March 2016.
- iii) The GPC will plan to present a Resolution in March 2016 including the following statement. The GPC would like to begin encouraging the Council by the following statement:

The GPC recommends that the University City participate in the Regional Chamber & Growth Green Cities Challenge pilot in order to develop meaningful tools to assist the greening of cities.

- iv) Tim submitted a motion to present the Resolution as stated. Jeff seconded the motion. All members voted yes.

5. New Business

- a) Green Practices Commission Secretary – Tabled until more members are present.

6. Old Business

- a) Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Program
 - i) The PACE ordinance will be presented for the first reading at the September 8th City Council Meeting.
 - ii) The following verbiage will be added to the ordinance, “including but not limited to the following PACE programs”.
- b) Yard Waste options
 - i) Jenny discussed adding a line item to the Refuse bill for \$1 specifically for yard waste instead of raising the rates. This would be similar to the cart fee in order to eliminate the yard waste sticker requirement.
 - ii) Jenny will discuss this with Finance.
 - iii) Steve Kraft suggested trying the plan of collecting yard waste in bags without the stickers for a few months to see how it works.
- c) Commercial Recycling ordinance update – Tabled
- d) Olive Streetlights/Northeast Neighborhood street lights – Tabled
- e) Website – Tabled
- f) Washington University/University City recycling collaboration progress – Tabled

7. Reports - No reports were provided.

8. Closing Round

- a) Steve Kraft asked if University City has regulations regarding downspouts. Jenny indicated that when there is a change or addition to downspouts or gutters, the property owner is required to discharge on private property, not in the sewer system or onto public right-of-way.
- b) Tim reminded Jenny of the Energy Efficiency Ordinance, enhanced commissioning requirement for the State Loan projects. Jenny will discuss with Rich Wilson the additional scope of services required for enhanced commissioning.
- c) Tim asked that the Community Solar program topic be added to the September meeting agenda.

d) Jeff requested that the GPC goal setting topic be added to the September meeting agenda.

9. Adjournment: 8:01 pm

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