

## Meeting Minutes – University City Green Practices Commission

**July 14, 2016**

Location: Heman Park Community Center  
Attendees Present: Dianne Benjamin, Bob Elgin, Lois Sechrist, Tim Michels, Jenny Wendt  
(Staff Liaison)

Absent: Richard Juang, Scott Eidson, Jeff Mishkin

1. Meeting Called to Order, Roll Call at 6:05 p.m.
2. Opening Round
  - a) Jenny stated the recycling drop-off renovation is in progress. Jenny also passed around a document about Water Quality Trading in Missouri by the Missouri Municipal League.
  - b) Lois attended an ASHE (American Society of Healthcare Engineering) Conference in Denver and spoke about green engineering.
  - c) Bob went to Alaska with National Geographic. Bob indicated the Home Builder's Association does not want to include energy efficiency criteria in the 2015 code but instead prefers to downgrade to the 2009 code. The Sierra Club is monitoring progress.
  - d) Tim met with the resource manager from Georgetown, Texas, which has 90% renewable energy from wind and solar. This city can be used as a model in negotiations with local utilities.
  - e) Dianne used Energy Star shingles on her house and added a ridge vent. She can apply to receive a federal tax credit. Dianne has a private Ameren dusk-to-dawn light in her yard and changed the lamp to LED.
  - f) Dianne reported that U City in Bloom has their Native Plant Event Saturday, August 27 from 9 – 12. GPC members will likely attend, but will not have a GPC table at the event.
3. Approval of Minutes
  - a) June 9, 2016 Meeting Minutes were approved as written.
4. Special Presentations
  - a) Cheryl Adelstein reviewed the Washington University Ackert Walkway/Greenway South proposed changes. Washington University plans to renovate the Forest Park Parkway pedestrian bridge (which links Ames Place with Washington University). Washington University is working with Jennifer Pangborn of Parsons Brinckerhoff, an engineering consulting firm. The primary changes are as follows:
    - i. The 8.5' wide general path will be expanded to an 18' wide bike/walk separated path.
    - ii. 15 trees will be removed (12 are sweet gum trees). 42 new trees will be added, 25 canopy and 17 flowering – primarily native species.
    - iii. The area will be irrigated for the first two years. After that, plants should be established enough to not require irrigation.
    - iv. A bioswale with native landscaping will be installed to replace the current pavement.
    - v. Very little turf will be planted, which will require infrequent mowing.
    - vi. Washington University will be responsible for the maintenance of the landscape installation.
  - b) Tim and Dianne expressed concern about the non-native trees; they would like to see all Missouri native trees. Cheryl will discuss this with SWT, the landscape architect, and will stay in contact with the GPC on the trees selections. Cheryl was willing to work to

accommodate this request.

5. New Business

- a) Terry Crow will be the new GPC council liaison.

6. Old Business

- a) Review Recycling Ordinance – This will be tabled until the August Commission meeting.  
b) Review and Update Strategic Plan  
c) Discuss Commission Mission, Vision, and Values; review reporting categories  
i. The Commission made the following suggested changes:

ORIGINAL:

**Vision:**

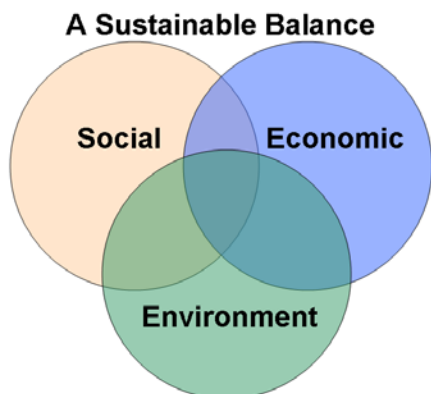
*Our vision for University City is to have a fully engaged community – city government, citizens, students, business owners, and patrons that integrate sustainability into every decision made, every action taken.*

**Values:**

*Our values are three-fold.*

- *We believe there is a connection between economic, environmental and social well-being.*
- *We believe we must be stewards of our community; therefore, this compels us to use our knowledge to enhance the quality of life of future generations.*
- *We believe that local behavior and global development are linked: this requires that we think globally, as we act locally.*

**The Framework:**



To align our efforts with the ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability) planning framework, called the STAR Community Index, the Green Practices Committee has divided the subject areas into a three-dimensional matrix. The Committee will fulfill its mission by improving our performance across the **triple bottom line of sustainability: Environment, Economy and Society.**

NEW:

## Vision:

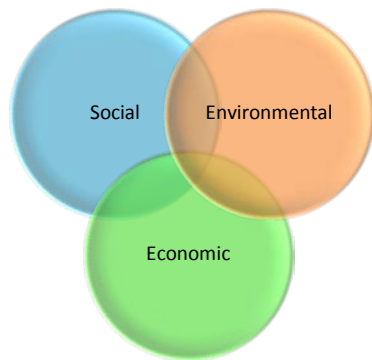
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## Values:

*Our values are three-fold.*

- *We believe there is a connection between social, environmental, and economic well-being.*
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## The Framework:



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The Commission will fulfill its mission by improving our performance across the **triple bottom line of sustainability: Social, Environment, and Economy.**

- ii. The Commission will request a study session and present to the council on September 26<sup>th</sup>.

7. Reports – None

8. Closing Round

- a) Jenny announced that the Fogerty Park renovations and the Majerus Park Master Plan have included many sustainable features: native plantings, water retention, and LED lighting.
- b) Lois and Jenny will reach out to Ray Lai on the progress of the strategic plan.

9. Meeting Adjourned at 7:25 p.m.