



Green Practices Commission

6801 Delmar Boulevard, University City, Missouri 63130, Phone: (314) 862-6767, Fax: (314) 863-9146

Meeting Minutes – University City Green Practices Commission

January 11, 2018

Location: Heman Park Community Center

Attendees Present: Jonathan Stitelman (Chairperson), Lois Sechrist, Barbara Brain, Adam Staudt, Kathy Straatmann, Timothy Dugan, Jenny Wendt (Staff Liaison), Adam Brown (Staff)

Absent: Terry Crow (Council Liaison)

1. Meeting Called to Order - Roll Call at 5:33

Special Guests: None

2. Opening Round:

- a. Lois – Coordinates Green Practices for a Health System, annual report will be out soon.
- b. Kathy – Concerned about incorrect recycling.
- c. Jenny – Passed out standard message for Recycling Right and the dangers of “wish-cycling”, where trash is thrown in the recycle bin in the hopes that it could possibly be recycled.

3. Approval of Minutes

- a. The 11/09/17 minutes were approved with minor revisions.

4. Special Presentation - None

5. New Business

- a. Welcome new members: Timothy Dugan and Kathleen Straatman
Commissioners discussed their backgrounds:

- i. Lois Sechrist: Founding member of the Green Practices Commission, has a career in green practices.
- ii. Timothy Dugan: From Boston, lived in University City since 2014. Works at the Gephardt Institute for Civic and Community engagement.
- iii. Kathy Straatman: First meeting, active in University City Politics, lived here since 1989, Owns 2 apartment buildings in University City.
- iv. Jonathan: 10 year resident of University City. Teaches Urban Design.
- v. Adam Staudt: Lived in University City since 2001. Owns a construction company based out of University City.
- vi. Barbara: 33 year resident of University City, worked in libraries for 35 years, recently completed the Master naturalist Program.
- vii. Jenny: Worked for University City for 8 years. Background in environmental chemistry. Now a project manager handling energy efficiency, solid waste, and other unrelated projects.
- viii. Adam Brown: Moved to University City from the east coast in 2016, has a degree in City and regional planning from Cornell. Working on Neighborhood outreach and

collaborating across departments.

- b. Recycling Ordinance for construction projects discussion – Jenny presented recycling ordinances from other locations across the country. The commission discussed the following factors:
 - i. Check University City’s database of construction/demolition companies.
 - ii. Start with developing and providing the businesses with educational material about reducing waste and the cost-savings of recycling instead of landfilling. In addition it is good social capital for businesses.
 - iii. First step of requiring City projects to recycle cardboard and metal with the recommendation to construction/demolition projects to follow the City’s ordinance.
 - iv. If and when ordinance implemented, can be tied to rough-in or final inspection.
 - v. Determine what recycling outlets are available for Construction and Demolition waste (other than LEDR and ECO).
 - vi. Creating an ordinance like this has been a multi-year process for other municipalities.
6. Old Business
- a. Sustainability Strategic Plan Review – Jonathan will compile the documents into 1 file and send a google document to the group.
 - b. Climate Action Plan (CAP) Update – Lois will finish summarizing the CAP and send it to the group.
7. Commission Reports
- a. Council Liaison Update – Absent
 - b. Quarterly Report – Ecosystems/Habitat: Barbara Brain discussed her research findings regarding what other parts of the country are doing about native plants.
 - i. Boulder, Colorado has an ENVIRONMENT tab on the website focusing on Climate, energy, water, waste, and ecosystems with information on the benefits of trees and a list of trees native to the area. Boulder is a bee friendly city with a tagline of “Bee-friendly Boulder”. The ecosystem section has a large focus on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) – The Long term prevention or suppression of pest problems while minimizing the impact on human health, the environment and non-target organisms. The City cannot use herbicides or pesticides on City property. There is a neighborhood with over 200 neighbors dedicated to keeping bees safe, designated as “Bee Safe” neighborhoods.
 - ii. Austin, Texas has a large part of their website devoted to Environmental programs. One program, Grow Green, is a gardening education program promoting sustainable landscaping. The website has “Grow Green Landscape Professional Training” available.
 - iii. Minneapolis Minnesota has a program called The Corcoran Pollinator Project, a grassroots initiative encouraging neighborhood pollinator gardens. The project has successfully completed 10 Boulevard gardens with 40 species of pollinator plants.
8. Closing Round
- a. Jonathan will be out until summertime.
 - b. Barbara is registered to listen to the Localizing the Paris Agreement – Local Government Climate Action and the Road Ahead.
9. Adjournment at 6:56 pm.