



Green Practices Commission

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Meeting Minutes – University City Green Practices Commission
January 14, 2021
Location: Zoom: Virtual Meeting
Attendees Present: John Solodar (Chairperson), Adam Staudt, Liz Essman, Barbara Brain, Jonathan Stitelman, Timothy Dugan, Jenny Wendt (Staff Liaison), Stacy Clay (Council Liaison)
Attendees Absent: None.

1. Meeting called to order at 5:31pm
2. Opening Round
 - a. John Solodar reported that Mary Gorman has resigned.
 - b. John Solodar reported that community cats would be allowed to let roam during the day and brought in at night. The National Audubon Society is not in favor of this, one billion birds are killed annually by roaming cats. The Audubon Society has written a letter to the City Manager in opposition.
 - c. Jenny reported on a proposal brought forth by a resident for the City endorsing the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty and implementing SAFE policies that would lead to ending the use of fossil fuels. The commission agreed that endorsing the treaty would not benefit the city as the city does not choose its energy source. Policies that encourage development to provide renewable-ready infrastructure is a possibility in the Sustainability Strategic Plan update which is underway. The Commission suggested the city publicize the progress the city has made in energy efficiency.
3. 01/14/2021 meeting minutes were approved with minor corrections
4. Special Presentations
 - a. None
5. New Business
 - a. Jenny reported on the Sustainability Work Plan FY2021 January - June (see report in agenda packet). Recycling Education was discussed by the Commission, Adam Staudt recommended Timothy Dugan to help with educational material for recycling.
 - b. Missouri Invasive Plant Task Force (MOIP) “Cease the Sale” and “Pledge to Stop the Spread of Invasive Plants: The state administration is being asked to ban the sale of invasive plants. The city is being asked to sign the pledge to cease planting invasive plants on the list and incorporate Missouri Native Plants as much as possible. The Urban Forestry Commission will be requesting the City to sign this pledge at their next meeting. The Green Practices Commission agreed unanimously for the City to sign this pledge.
6. Old Business

a. None

7. Council Liaison Update:

- A Study Session was held regarding the financial impact that Washington University has on the City. The report indicated that Washington University owned property cost the City more to service than the City receives in tax revenue. The report is on the U City website.
- A public hearing for re-zoning for Olive 1-70 was held with no issues.
- Adam Staudt inquired about the MSD Storage Tanks. Councilmember Clay indicated he has not heard anything about this since last summer.

8. Closing Round

- a. Barbara Brain inquired about discontinuing mosquito fogging. Jenny reported the City is analyzing options.
- b. John Solodar reported a house with new solar panels with a “Grow Solar” sign in the yard.

9. Adjournment at 6:45 pm.