



Green Practices Commission

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

A G E N D A **GREEN PRACTICES COMMISSION MEETING**

Thursday, May 12, 2022 at 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
Heman Park Community Center, 975 Pennsylvania Ave.

- 1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. OPENING ROUND**
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** 3/10/2022 draft minutes attached
- 5. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**
- 6. NEW BUSINESS**
- 7. OLD BUSINESS**
 - a. Sustainability Strategic Plan in Draft Form – Discussion
 - b. Dark Skies Ordinance – Discussion
- 8. COUNCIL LIAISON UPDATE**
- 9. CLOSING ROUND**
- 10. ADJOURNMENT**

Please call (314) 505-8572 or email salpaslan@ucitymo.org to confirm your attendance.



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Meeting Minutes – University City Green Practices Commission

March 10, 2022, **DRAFT**

Location: Heman Park Community Center

Attendees Present: John Solodar (Chairperson), Jonathan Stitelman, Barbara Brain, Adam Staudt, Sinan Alpaslan (Staff Liaison), Stacy Clay (Council Liaison)

Attendees Absent: Mathew Emden (Excused), Tim Schmalz (Excused)

1. Meeting called to order at 6:03pm
2. Commissioner Brain reported that an adopted right-of-way clean-up activity was completed on Midland Blvd. in University City between Olive Blvd. and Page Ave. and 13 bags of litter were collected.
3. Approval of Minutes from February 10, 2022: Commissioner Brain noted that Jim Sayers' name from St. Louis County was misspelled on the Old Business section minutes. Ms. Brain added that St. Louis County tests for mosquitos to determine if West Nile Virus is present and spray only when it is present. "Jim Sayers and Jean Ponzi worked together to inform the public about mosquito control" statement was entered to replace "... Ms. Ponzi reached out to Mr. Sayers on this topic". Chairman Solodar stated his understanding as that St. Louis County is testing to see if Qlex mosquitos are present and test them for the West Nile Virus and spray the areas where the West Nile Virus is detected. Commissioner Stitelman moved to approve the modified minutes as above, seconded by Commissioner Brain and unanimously approved.
4. Special Presentation: None.
5. No citizens were present at the meeting.
6. New Business: None.
7. Old Business:
 - b. Mosquito Control: Chairman Solodar referenced the summary that he assembled and was incorporated into the agenda packet as a brief on all the discussions on the Mosquito Control topic and proposed the use of this information by the City Manager's Office to respond to any relevant citizen inquiries. Commissioner Stitelman moved to approve this summary, seconded by Commissioner Staudt and unanimously approved.
 - a. Sustainability Strategic Plan: The agenda packet contained a summary of information that Commissioner Brain came up with 5 years ago. The information was never presented to the full commission. Ms. Brain explained that U. City in Bloom is currently heading the work in Ruth Park Woods on Monday and Thursday afternoons and over the weekend, too. This work is line with the principles of the Ecosystem/Habitat/Biodiversity discussion that Ms. Brain referenced. Commissioner Brain originally presented the grant opportunity for the Ruth Park Woods work to Jesse Gilbertson and U. City in Bloom obtained the grant. Kathy Freese brought on people and the work under the grant began with the Green Center's support. Commissioner Staudt asked if the Parks Department would follow the guidelines in this area and Commissioner Brain explained that new plantings would be compliant with the guidelines but the existing growth would need to be addressed as it included winter creeper, honey suckle and other invasive species. Commissioner Stitelman added the suggestion of making this information more



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accessible to residents as an additional resource. The Bring Conservation Home information is not up-to-date on the website and that information when, up-to-date, can help with various aspects of pesticides use and inform the citizens. Doing this type of work on public lands has created the interest of other residents in this subject. Commissioner Stitelman suggested consolidating the Strategies #1 and #3, and adding the promotion of community partnerships and resources as Strategy #3. University City's newsletter ROARS can also be used to refer its readers to University City's website where conservation and other information on the related topics can be shared.

The tree canopy inventory was done as of 2018 and that could be a baseline to compare to the current tree inventory work when completed. A discussion took place with respect to the public street trees and private trees and their maintenance. Commissioner Stitelman has indicated a plan for writing up a summary of that discussion and discussing it further with the City Forester.

- c. Dark Skies Ordinance: Discussion included a note about better lit alleys having more crime than less lit alleys in Chicago.
8. Council Liaison Update: Councilmember Clay stated that the State of the City Address was given the previous week. Mr. Clay referenced the City's website for the information about the State of the City Address. Mr. Clay added that the old Pete's Shur Sav across from Hartman's Towing had been purchased and getting readied for development. In the State of the City Address there were remarks about Prop F and a related question and answer form on the website.
9. Closing Round

Commissioner Staudt shared that the Vision 2040 Think Tank meeting was occurring at the time of this meeting and another one was scheduled the coming Saturday. Current survey responses are over 500 in number. The two Think Tank sessions would be different from each other.
10. Adjournment 7:01pm