



## **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, February 9, 2023 at 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.**  
**Heman Park Community Center**  
**6801 Delmar Blvd., University City, MO 63130**

- 1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. OPENING ROUND**
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** January 12, 2023 draft minutes attached
- 5. SPECIAL PRESENTATION –** Dark Skies Ordinance (Tim Schmalz)
- 6. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**
- 7. NEW BUSINESS**
  - a. Discussion of action items to inform updated Sustainability Strategic Plan
  - b. Natural gas energy source in buildings, particularly in homes
  - c. Electronics recycling event
- 8. OLD BUSINESS**
- 9. COUNCIL LIAISON UPDATE**
- 10. CLOSING ROUND**
- 11. ADJOURNMENT**

Staff Liaison Contact:

Mary Kennedy, Senior Planner

(314) 505-8516

[mkennedy@ucitymo.org](mailto:mkennedy@ucitymo.org)



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### Green Practices Commission

Meeting Minutes – University City Green Practices Commission

January 12, 2023, **DRAFT**

Location: City Hall, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room

Attendees Present: John Solodar (Chairman), Connie Mueller, Mathew Emden, Tim Schmalz, Stacy Clay (Council Liaison), Mary Kennedy (Staff Liaison)

Attendees Absent: Jonathan Stitelman (Excused), Adam Staudt (Excused)

1. Meeting called to order at 5:50pm
2. Approval of Minutes from May 12, 2022: Commissioner Emden moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Schmalz, and unanimously approved.
3. No citizens were present at the meeting.
4. New Business:
  - a. Introductions  
Mary Kennedy, the new staff liaison, and Commissioner Connie Mueller introduced themselves.
  - b. Goals, vision, and meeting format of the Commission going forward  
Kennedy asked the Commissioners to discuss and determine the goals of the Green Practices Commission (GPC) going forward, suggesting an update to the City's Sustainability Strategic Plan. The commissioners stated they prefer in-person meetings and it was decided that future meetings will be held in-person.  
  
Commissioner Schmalz suggested that the GPC could serve as a resource for the public, staff, and council on matters related to sustainable practices, by creating toolkits or informational handouts on specific green practices topics, which would be available online. Schmalz asked Council Member Clay about the Council's capacity and interest in sustainable practices recommendations. Clay shared that the Council will be most favorable to low- or no-cost initiatives which focus on a change in practice.  
  
After some discussion, the GPC determined that the 2021 draft sustainability strategic plan needed further editing, and that each commissioner shall identify the plan's recommendations. Then, at the February GPC meeting, commissioners will discuss the recommendations from the 2021 draft plan and other draft GPC documents. Then, the GPC will create a prioritized list of action items, ranked by projected cost to the City and staff capacity. Once this prioritized set of recommendations is complete, the GPC may present to the Council at a study session.
  - c. Comprehensive Plan (2023 Update)  
Kennedy shared information on the City's effort to update its Comprehensive Plan, which has not been updated since 2005. The Comprehensive Plan will have important implications for development patterns in the City, make recommendations to revise city ordinances/zoning code, and will address sustainability issues that the GPC may want to review and coordinate with.



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5. Council Liaison Update:

Council Member Clay shared the news of the passing of Paulette Carr, former City Council member. He also mentioned that the Commission on Stormwater Issues recently presented to the Council analysis and recommendations relating to the July 2022 flood event. Finally, Clay shared that Council will be voting on a 3% sales tax on recreational marijuana, which is now legal in the State of Missouri.

6. Closing Round

Commissioner Emden posed the idea of organizing a social event for the commissioners to get to know each other in a more informal environment.

7. Adjournment 6:38pm

DRAFT

**From:** Terry Crow <[terry@crowgroup.net](mailto:terry@crowgroup.net)>  
**Date:** January 16, 2023 at 10:37:34 AM CST  
**To:** Jeanne Heitman <[jeanne.heitman@att.net](mailto:jeanne.heitman@att.net)>  
**Cc:** Gregory Rose <[grose@ucitymo.org](mailto:grose@ucitymo.org)>  
**Subject: RE: Get methane gas out of our buildings**

Ms. Heitman,

Thanks for your email.

I have copied our City Manager on this email so that he can forward this to our Green Practices Commission. I am sure they will want to add this to one of their upcoming agendas.

Thanks, Terry C.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Jeanne Heitman <[jeanne.heitman@att.net](mailto:jeanne.heitman@att.net)>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 13, 2023 5:02 PM  
**To:** [mayor@ucitymo.org](mailto:mayor@ucitymo.org)  
**Subject:** Get methane gas out of our buildings

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dear Crow,

I'm writing to you today because I believe our community must urgently pass a building electrification policy and phase fossil fuels out of our homes and businesses.

Buildings are responsible for 13% of greenhouse gas emissions in the US, and recent study from the International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health found that gas stoves are responsible for 1 in 8 cases of childhood asthma – that's on par with secondhand smoke. Burning gas in homes also generates harmful emissions of formaldehyde, methane, nitrogen oxides, and other pollutants.

As your constituent, I'm urging you to do everything in your power to ensure new buildings in our community are all-electric and help phase gas and other fossil fuels out of existing buildings.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Jeanne Heitman, University City