



## Green Practices Commission

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

### **MEETING MINUTES (APPROVED)**

#### **GREEN PRACTICES COMMISSION**

Thursday, July 13, 2023 at 5:30 – 7:00 pm

Heman Park Community Center

1. **Call to Order:** 5:41 pm

2. **Roll Call:**

Attendees Present: John Solodar (Chairman), Connie Mueller, Adam Staudt, Stacy Clay (Council Liaison), Mary Kennedy (Staff Liaison)

Attendees Absent: Jonathan Stitelman, Mathew Emden

3. **Opening Round:**

Staff Liaison Mary Kennedy asked that the special presentation be moved to a future meeting. It was also discussed that if the Green Practices Commission (GPC) is interested in hosting another residential solar education and sign-up program, it might be easiest to work with Grow Solar, which is the organization that hosted past residential solar events.

Chair Solodar shared that the City is looking to hire neighborhood ambassadors for the Housing & Third Ward Revitalization Task Force planning process, and asked commissioners to share this opportunity with anyone that might be interested.

4. **Approval of Minutes:** The June 8, 2023 meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

5. **Special Presentation:** Jennifer Stogsdill (Home Energy Consultant with ADT Solar) – This special presentation was postponed until further notice.

6. **Citizen Participation:** None

7. **New Business:**

- a. Commissioner Schmalz shared that the person who leads the sustainability program at Brittany Woods Middle School would be a good presenter for a future meeting (possibly August or September), to share more about the sustainability initiatives happening at the school.

8. **Old Business:**

- a. Sustainability action items chart: Commissioner Schmalz provided an update on the action items effort and determined that it would be most efficient for him to create a survey for commissioners to rank the action items and identify priorities. The results could then be discussed at the next meeting.
- b. Electronics recycling event: Ms. Kennedy reported that the City will soon begin advertising the electronics recycling and document shredding event.

On a related note, Council Member Clay asked about the proper methods for recycling paints



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and chemicals. The commissioners offered some options, and the discussion expanded to the idea of including this type of recycling tip in ROARS. It could be an ongoing “Green Practices” tip featured in the publication. The U City “Buy Nothing” Facebook group was also mentioned as an option for recycling paint if it’s still usable. Ms. Kennedy also shared that the recycling page is one of the most requested pages on the City’s website, but that the information may need to be reviewed and simplified.

- c. December informal social event in lieu of formal meeting: Ms. Kennedy reported that the GPC is welcome to meet informally for socializing, as long as they do not conduct City business.
  - d. Comprehensive Plan: Ms. Kennedy reported that she would like to present some of the draft comprehensive plan recommendations to the GPC at the next meeting to get their feedback. She also shared that there will be an open house for the comprehensive plan on July 19, 2023 and that all are welcome and encouraged to attend.
  - e. Vacant commissioner seats: To help fill upcoming vacant commissioner seats, commissioners are welcome to direct potentially interested citizens to Council Member Clay, or LaRette Reese, the City Clerk.
9. **Council Liaison Update**: Stacy Clay reported that the Council received an update on the comprehensive plan and feedback from the community. Some of the major themes that have emerged through include mitigating the impacts of flooding and storms, strengthening Delmar and Olive, and encouraging neighborhood nodes (smaller mixed-use areas that are integrated into neighborhoods).

Council Member Clay also provided an update on the Market at Olive development, specifically that the City is still in discussions/renegotiations with the major retail anchors that were interested in the sites near Costco.

Chair Solodar asked about the impact of the recent storm/tree damage to the City’s budget. Council Liaison Clay shared that once the dust settles from cleanup, the budget impact will be clearer, and that the comprehensive plan is an important opportunity to better prepare for these hazards in the future.

Council Member Clay also shared that the pool has limited hours due to staffing challenges.

10. **Closing Round** – none
11. **Adjournment**: The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.