



Green Practices Commission

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

AGENDA

GREEN PRACTICES COMMISSION MEETING

Thursday, May 9, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.

Location: Heman Park Community Center, 975 Pennsylvania Ave

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **ROLL CALL**
3. **OPENING ROUND**
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
 - a. March 14, 2024
 - b. *(April 11, 2024 minutes will be presented at the next meeting)*
5. **SPECIAL PRESENTATION**
6. **CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**
7. **NEW BUSINESS**
8. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - a. Volunteer litter clean-up event
 - b. ROARS Column
 - c. Tiny Forests
 - d. Sustainability action items chart
 - e. Fall 2024 document shredding and 2025 recycling events
 - f. Ripple Glass Recycling Company
 - g. Grow Solar Power Hour
9. **COUNCIL LIAISON UPDATE**
10. **CLOSING ROUND**
11. **ADJOURNMENT**

Staff Liaison Contact:

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MEETING MINUTES (DRAFT)

GREEN PRACTICES COMMISSION

Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 5:30 pm
Via Videoconference (Zoom)

1. Call to Order: 5:36 pm

2. Roll Call:

Attendees Present: Connie Mueller (Chair), Nicole Baumgarten, Suzanne Schoomer, Mathew Emden, Stacy Clay (Council Liaison), Mary Kennedy (Staff Liaison)

Attendees Absent: Tim Schmalz

3. Opening Round: None

4. Approval of Minutes:

Commissioner Schoomer motioned to approve the February 8, 2024 meeting minutes. Commissioner Baumgarten seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

5. Special Presentation: None

6. Citizen Participation: None

7. New Business: None

8. Old Business:

- a. ROARS Column: Ms. Kennedy reported that she has spoken with Mary Goodman, the City's Communications Manager, about the ROARS Column idea. Rather than have a full article in each issue, because space is tight, Ms. Goodman suggested a "teaser" with a few sentences and a QR code linking to the full article on ucitymo.org. Content for the summer issue of ROARS is due April 5, so there is probably not enough time to prepare articles. Rather than rush to write articles before then, the commission agreed that instead they can work on building up the articles and getting the website ready.

Ms. Kennedy will also work with Ms. Goodman to get a page created on the website for the articles to be housed. Commissioner Baumgarten suggested having a "like" and "comment" feature for content on the website, as well as a "suggestion box" for future article topics.

- b. Tiny Forests: Commissioner Mueller reported that she spoke with some folks recently at a tiny forest planting project along Christy Greenway in the City of St. Louis. She suggested inviting one of those individuals, Aaron Dohogne, to the next commission meeting to share his expertise and learned lessons. The commission agreed. She also spoke with Forest ReLeaf and they seem willing to help how they can with the project.

Commissioner Mueller discussed a couple potential sites – Wilson Avenue, Hafner Court, and Greensfelder Park – and expressed a preference for Wilson Avenue. She would also like to set a goal of starting the project in fall 2024. The commission agreed that Wilson Avenue would be the preferred location and that starting the project in the fall would be preferred but it depends on when they can get permission. More discussion is needed with the City.



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Commissioner Schoomer suggested asking University City High School students and even possibly WashU students to volunteer. There was also some discussion of options for water access – existing water lines, trucks with water tanks, etc. – to ensure the trees can be watered enough especially during the summer months.

Next steps were determined to be getting a “soft yes” from the City Manager to proceed with the project, and then to set up a meeting with Darin Girdler, the City Manager, and a 1-2 representatives from the Commission.

- c. Sustainability action items chart: This item is pending creating a webpage for the GPC’s articles.
- d. Spring electronics event: Ms. Kennedy reported that the grant application was approved, so the City can start spending money related to the event for signage, etc. She also reminded the commissioners that they had signed up to volunteer on the day of the event, Sunday, April 14 from 12-3pm.

Commissioner Baumgarten suggested having two drop-off lanes to help with traffic.

- e. Ripple Glass Recycling Company: No update
- f. Grow Solar Power Hour: No update

9. **Council Liaison Update:** Councilmember Clay reported that repairs were currently being made to Centennial Commons. The City will also be collaborating on programs with the school district.

In addition, Councilmember Clay provided an update on the Trinity/Annex project and budget. The project will be funded with certificates of participation (revenue bonds).

Finally, he provided an update on the Market at Olive development.

10. **Closing Round:**

- a. Litter Clean-Up Event: Commissioner Baumgarten asked if there was an update on this idea. Ms. Kennedy said she will talk to Darin Girdler about the potential for the City to support an event like this.

11. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:28 pm.