



## 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, February 13, 2025 at 5:30 pm

Location: Heman Park Community Center (975 Pennsylvania)

1. **Call to Order:** 5:30 pm

2. **Roll Call:**

Attendees Present: Connie Mueller (Chair), Mat Emden, Nicole Baumgarten, Ken Schechtman, Tim Schmalz, Suzanne Schoomer, John Tieman (Council Liaison), Mary Kennedy (Staff Liaison)

Guests: Amy Gilbertson (Trivers), James Roseberry (Trivers), Laura Barber (IMEG), Matt Kahn (IMEG)

Attendees Absent: None

3. **Opening Round:** Commissioner Mueller shared that she was accepted into the Missouri Conservation Commission's Master Naturalist program. She also shared she will have an exhibit at the Green Center for her paintings, the proceeds of which will go to the World Wildlife Fund.

4. **Approval of Minutes:**

- a. January 9, 2025 Meeting Minutes: Commissioner Baumgarten motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Mueller seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

5. **Special Presentation:** Trivers and IMEG – Discussion about proposed scope of work for Carbon Assessment project.

Amy Gilbertson and James Roseberry with Trivers Architects described the impetus for the conversation that was had in July 2024 with Councilmember Tieman and City Manager Gregory Rose about what the City could do to work towards energy efficiency in City-owned buildings and advance its leadership in sustainability initiatives. At that meeting, Trivers was asked to put together a proposed scope of work for a carbon assessment and part two would involve creating a decarbonization plan.

Laura Barber with IMEG distributed work samples to the meeting attendees demonstrating similar work her firm has done for other institutions.

There was discussion between the commissioners and the consultants about the proposed scope of work for the carbon assessment; incorporating cost analysis into decarbonization planning; the consultants' qualifications; details about how energy data would be collected and analyzed; what a possible future phase for decarbonization planning would entail, funding challenges at the federal level and how that impacts local government; retro-commissioning; and additional services that could be incorporated into the scope if desired. Commissioners also expressed concern about the completeness of the report that was prepared by the consultants for the Trinity/Annex renovation.

When the discussion ended, the consultants thanked the commission for their time and offered to provide additional information if requested. The consultants left the meeting at 6:23 pm.

The commission proceeded to new business and then came back to this topic after item 7b. Commissioner Schmalz left the meeting at 6:54 pm. There was discussion among the



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commission about wanting to see proposals from other firms.

Commissioner Baumgarten made a motion that “The Commission recommends to the Council to receive at least two more competitive proposals for a greenhouse gas emissions study, prior to entering into any agreements.” Commissioner Schoomer seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

**6. Citizen Participation: None**

**7. New Business:**

- a. Update on ‘solar panel cost-benefit analysis’ motion: Ms. Kennedy summarized the motion that was made at the January 9 meeting and shared that the city manager suggested scheduling a study session with the Green Practices Commission and the City Council to discuss this motion. The Commission agreed that March 24 is the preferred ideal date. There was discussion about how to structure/format the presentation and who would lead the presentation. Councilmember Tieman suggested that they keep the presentation simple and straightforward. Councilmember Tieman suggested an idea of creating a community solar project.
- b. Discuss potential development review scope and procedure: Ms. Kennedy suggested that the Commission could also discuss with the City Council during their study session how to be more involved in development review.

**8. Old Business:**

- a. ROARS content and online articles: Ms. Kennedy reported that the electrification article will be published in the Spring 2025 ROARS issues.
- b. Tiny forests: No update.
- c. Spring 2025 electronics recycling event: Saturday, May 10 at Heman Park Community Center.

**9. Council Liaison Update:** Councilmember Tieman reported that the city manager would like the Commission to contemplate what a job description for a “Sustainability Officer” might look like. Ms. Kennedy suggested that commissioners send her any suggestions directly and they could discuss at the next meeting. He also reported that he has had conversations with the city manager and deputy city manager about creating a “green checklist.”

Councilmember Tieman reported that Lisa Brennan was appointed for a fill-in term and has been sworn in and had her first Council meeting this past Monday.

He also shared two development updates and recent conversations he has had with other elected officials around the region.

Commissioner Schoomer had to leave the meeting at 7:07pm.

**10. Closing Round: None**

**11. Adjournment:** Commissioner Baumgartner motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Mueller seconded. The motion passed 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:09 pm.