



Green Practices Commission

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MEETING MINUTES

GREEN PRACTICES COMMISSION MEETING

Thursday, October 9, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

Location: Heman Park Community Center (975 Pennsylvania Avenue)

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 5:33 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Attendees Present: Nicole Baumgarten, Connie Mueller (Chair), Suzanne Schoomer, John Tieman (Council liaison), Ken Schechtman, Steve Stricklan (staff liaison), Timothy Schmalz, Yann Estaque

Attendees Absent: Mathew Emden

3. OPENING ROUND

The Commission welcomed Commissioner Estaque to the Green Practices Commission as a newly appointed member.

Commissioner Baumgarten proposed a discussion of the involvement the Commission should have in the Enclaves at Canton development. There was discussion regarding the vote of the Stormwater Commission on the proposed development. The Commission requested that someone representing the Stormwater Commission and Forestry attend next month's meeting to provide additional details on this project.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None

5. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

None

6. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

None

7. NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Schmalz provided an update on the latest draft of the solar ordinance to reflect changes requested following the presentation to City Council. He said he would distribute additional discussion materials at the next meeting.

8. OLD BUSINESS

a. Annual report for commission

- i. There was discussion among the Commission about a high level report about the

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accomplishments from the previous year to be submitted to City Council. Mr. Stricklan to review and report back at the next meeting.

- b. Tiny forests
 - i. Chair Mueller said that this item has been placed on the backburner.
- c. Fall 2025 shredding event: Sunday, September 7 at Heman Park Community Center
 - i. Chair Mueller and Commissioner Baumgarten reported back on success of the event. There was discussion of why the Commission was involved and whether that should be a role for the Commission moving forward. It was determined there was value in electronics recycling.
- d. Commissioner Schmalz brought to the attention of the Commission a conversation with an individual from Great Rivers Greenway regarding a proposed trail in University City that was presented at a farmers market.
- e. Commissioner Baumgarten discussed Sol Smart, a designation from the Department of Energy that shows a community is solar friendly. The City of Clayton is certified. There was discussion about how to acquire additional information and whether the decision to pursue the certification would be a consideration of City Council or the City Manager. Mr. Stricklan said he would follow up with Interim Director Becky Ahlvin.

9. COUNCIL LIAISON UPDATE

- a. Council Member Tieman said that he would send his open letter on the Enclave at Canton to the Commission members. The development is not yet before the City Council.
- b. There was discussion regarding House Bill 939 from the State of Missouri, which could limit green development on the basis of cost.
- c. There was discussion regarding the Cool Cities STL meeting in University City the past August and an upcoming meeting at Washington University in January.
- d. There was discussion regarding model legislation for green causes.

10. CLOSING ROUND

- a. Commissioner Estaque described some interests on green subjects, including single use plastics and concern regarding turning up the thermostat at City Hall if it is uncomfortably cold.

11. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Commissioner Schoomer motioned to adjourn, Chair Mueller seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 p.m.