



Green Practices Commission

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Draft

Meeting Minutes – University City Green Practices Commission

January 10, 2013

Location: Heman Park Community Center
Attendees Present: Dianne Benjamin, Jerry Breakstone, Helen Fuller, Michael Glickert (Council liaison), Lynnette Hicks (Staff liaison), Tim Michels, Jeff Mishkin, and Lois Sechrist
Absent: None
Excused: None
Guests: Bob Elgin, Sierra Club

1. Roll Call at 6:00 p.m.
2. Opening Round:
 - a. Diane Benjamin – Shared DVD copies of the River des Peres history with Commission members.
 - b. Michael Glickert
 - (1) The new fire station is in progress
 - (2) The City is still waiting to hear back from the Trolley Board relative to the additional information necessary for permits
 - (3) Ongoing violence in University City is of concern to City Council
 - (4) CVS is no longer interested in developing the location that had been under consideration
3. Administrative items:
 - a. Minutes from November meeting approved with corrections: spelling of Dianne's first name and grammatical corrections.
4. Special Presentations
 - a. None
5. New Business
 - a. Draft Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan
 - (1) The proposed Completes Streets Ordinance has been put on "hold" for staff to revise it into a Resolution.
 - (2) The overview of the Plan is a "Vision for the City".
 - (3) The plan's initial implementation costs, including bike routes and striping, can be phased into the City's budget.
 - (4) University City is already a 'connected city' which will be helpful in keeping down startup costs related to implementation of the Plan.
6. Old Business
 - a. Goal Setting – Update on Member Assignments
 - (1) Green Buildings - Open
 - (2) Energy –Tim Michels
 - (3) Ecosystems/Habitat – Dianne Benjamin
 - (4) Water/Storm water – Helen Fuller
 - (5) Air Quality/Transportation – Jeff Mishkin

- (6) Waste/Resource Conservation – Lois Sechrist
- (7) Land Use/Open Space/Parks – Jerry Breakstone

b. Final Review of the Proposed Bylaw Amendments – proposed changes accepted and approved for Bylaws.

c. Term Member Assignments

- (1) Tim Michels, 2 years
- (2) Dianne Benjamin, 3 years
- (3) Jerry Breakstone, 1 year

d. Energy Conservation Codes

- (1) Tim Michels gave an update on where the City stands on adoption of the International Energy Code. It is his opinion that the City should adopt the 2012 code.

e. RainScape Rebates Program

- (1) Lois and Helen both reported that the program is being well received by University City residents with an unexpected volume in the requests for information/application packets.
- (2) Thanks to some additional help from the City's marketing/PR agency, media coverage has been excellent with articles appearing in the Post-Dispatch, the Patch, the West End Word, the Beacon, the City's Website and Gateway Gardener.
- (3) Workshops on the application process and programming are sponsored by the Missouri Botanical Gardens (MOBOT). The workshops are recommended for home gardeners and required for commercial applicants.

f. Subcommittee Reports

- (1) Commission member reports will be on a quarterly basis starting in February 2013, as per the list provided by Lois.

January, April, July, October

- Ecosystems/Habitat
- Water/Stormwater

February, May, August, October

- Air Quality/Transportation
- Waste/Resource Conservation

March, June, September, November

- Land Use/Open Space/Parks
- Energy
- Green Buildings

No GPC meeting in December

7. Closing Round

a. Dianne Benjamin

- (1) Attended the World Conservation Forum at the Zoo on "Conservation and Sustainability- Past, Present and Future". Mayor Welsch was a keynote speaker at the event on the topic "A Living (and Growing) Legacy of Environmentalism in University City".
- (2) Dianne plans to participate in the Audubon at Home Program and will attend a training workshop on February 23.

b. Tim Michels

- (1) Asked for an update on the status of the Energy Ordinance prepared and submitted to the City last year. Lynnette will send a copy of the Ordinance to Michael Glickert to check on the status and provide an update at the next meeting.

- c. Lois Sechrist
 - (1) Attended the Green Building Council chapter meeting.
 - d. Helen Fuller
 - (1) Plans to attend the workshop on Wastewater at the Alberici Building on January 22 & 23rd. Rainscaping will be one of the sessions offered.
 - e. Michael Glickert
 - (1) Reviewing applicants for Neville Rapp's vacancy on the Commission.
8. Meeting Adjourned – 7:30 pm.
9. Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 14, 2013, 6:00-7:30 p.m., Heman Park Community Center.