



Green Practices Commission

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DRAFT

Meeting Minutes – University City Green Practices Commission

February 14, 2013

Location: Heman Park Community Center
Attendees Present: Dianne Benjamin, Helen Fuller, Michael Glickert (Council liaison), Lynnette Hicks (Staff liaison), Tim Michels, Jeff Mishkin, and Lois Sechrist
Absent: Jerry Breakstone, B. Scott Eidson, Tim Michels
Excused: Jerry Breakstone, B. Scott Eidson
Unexcused: Tim Michels
Guests: Eric Karch, River Des Peres Watershed Coalition

1. Roll Call at 6:00 p.m.
2. Opening Round:
 - a. Lynnette Hicks
 - (1) The May 9, 2013 Commission meeting will need to be held in another location due to the Taste of U City event scheduled to be held in Heman Park Community Center on the same day and time. The meeting location will be provided at a later date.
 - b. Jeff Mishkin
 - (1) He attended the Olive Boulevard meeting and is looking forward to the new development.
 - c. Lois Sechrist
 - (1) Would like to thank Neville Rapp on her years of service on the Green Practices Commission. The Commission will send her a thank you letter.
 - (2) The City has a design Charette on February 19, 2013, at 6:30 p.m. concerning the vacant property at Olive and North and South Road. The City is looking for redevelopment ideas for that area.
 - (3) The Missouri Coalition for the Environment has announced summer internships. Additional information is available on their website.
 - d. Michael Glickert
 - (1) The former Missouri Council for the Blind building on Olive at North and South Road has been purchased by a company in Illinois. The new business will be a medical center that will bring in over 40 jobs.
 - (2) Council recently passed a project for the Tivioli parking lot to pave it with pervious materials to address any storm water issues. Lynnette added that the high pressure sodium parking light will be retrofitted with a LED fixture.
 - (3) Council approved \$100,000 to upgrade some sidewalks to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.
 - (4) The City was just awarded a \$10,000 grant from St. Louis-Jefferson Solid Waste Management District to do some recycling education.
3. Administrative items:
 - a. Minutes from the January meeting approved with corrections: spelling of Dianne's first name.
4. New Business
 - a. New Commission Member
 - (1) Scott Eidson is our new Commission member. He is attorney with a background in Finance. Scott was not able to make the meeting tonight due to his work schedule.

5. Special Presentations

- a. Helen Fuller and Eric Karch summarized of the RainScape Rebates Program and answered questions from about ten audience members. A list of questions and answers will be included as an attachment to the meeting minutes and will be sent to anyone providing an email address on the sign in sheet.

6. Old Business

- a. Schedule for Member Reports
 - (1) The rotation of member reports will start this month.
- b. Air Quality/Transportation – Subcommittee Report presented by Jeff.
 - (1) Jeff is interested in taking on the Green Buildings topic instead of Air Quality and Transportation.
 - (2) Jeff will review the Greenhouse Gas Inventory report from 2011 prior the next Commission meeting. He would like to know the status of the goals and action items from the Strategic Sustainability Plan by working with Lynnette.
 - (3) Since he has a background in solar panel technology and energy, Jeff would like to find out more about the vehicle charging stations at the Moonrise Hotel and those located on the Washington University campus. The charging stations relate to transportation.
 - (4) Lois recommended that Jeff select a few goals from the Sustainability plan, complete background research, pick an item or so to focus on then create an action plan. Jeff would prefer to pick one or two goals that are beneficial and attainable for the City.
 - (5) Jeff would like to know about the potential traffic reduction or impact of the Trolley project. Lynnette will send the most recent traffic study to Jeff for review. Michael mentioned that the Council is still waiting on documents from the Trolley project team before permits are approved.
 - (6) Dianne mentioned that the University of Louisville has an incentive program for students to complete certain sustainable tasks to receive points toward purchasing a bicycle. The program is a part of the long range goals of the City of Louisville. She also read an article about eliminating one-way streets and left turns to allow traffic to idle less and these systems also protect pedestrians.
- c. Waste/Resource Conservation – Subcommittee Report presented Lois.
 - (1) Lois plans to continue the previous groundwork of surveying Delmar Loop business owners about their recycling practices. She will work with the Loop Special Business District (LSBD) to develop a survey to gather information to create a baseline of data. The survey will include questions to create a SWOT analysis, which can help to identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. The information will be shared with the Commission for feedback on how to move forward.
 - (2) Dianne recommended that the Olive Business District and U City Chamber of Commerce be included in the fact finding process. Michael recommended attending one of the monthly LSBD meetings.
 - (3) New York City is actually considering banning plastic foam food packaging.
- d. Energy Conservation Codes- Adopting 2012 Codes
 - (1) Lynnette reported that Community Development staff is in the process of recommending that the City adopt the 2012 codes for all areas.
- e. Energy Ordinance Update
 - (1) No update tonight.

7. Reports

- a. Councilmember Glickert
 - (1) Council approved \$100,000 for infrastructure improvements (curbs and sidewalks) in various locations in University City as determined by City staff. The improvements focus on ADA compliancy.
 - (2) A new bridge is planned at Chamberlain and Kingsland.
 - (3) Five new police cars will be purchased.

- (4) The new fire station construction is moving along. The station is located at Westgate and Vernon. Adam Long is the City's new fire chief. Mr. Long previously served as the Chief of Operations at Lambert International airport.
- (5) The first edition of the community newspaper, Roars, was recently prepared and will be mailed to residents.

8. Closing Round

a. Helen Fuller

- (1) Helen attended a workshop on Rainscape Gardening at Alberici. The presenter, Carla Wilson, provide information on how to improve soil structure and space considerations for installing a rain garden will native plants.
- (2) Helen also resigned from her position as Secretary from the Commission effective March 14, 2013.

c. Lois Sechrist

- (1) Lois suggested that everyone be aware of events happening in the area to start thinking about how the Commission could contribute to events such as, World Water Day, Earth Day, etc.

d. Lynnette Hicks

- (1) The City was recently approved for \$10,000 to implement a recycling education program. The grant funds will be used to create a recycling education brochure that will be mailed to U City residents.

9. Meeting Adjourned – 7:30 pm.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 14, 2013, 6:00-7:30 p.m., Heman Park Community Center.