



Green Practices Commission

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Meeting Minutes – University City Green Practices Commission

October 9, 2014

DRAFT

Location: Heman Park Community Center

Attendees Present: Tim Michels (Sitting in for Lois Sechrist as chairperson), Scott Eidson, Dianne Benjamin, Jeff Mishkin, Lois Sechrist, Bob Elgin, Robert Elgin, Jenny Wendt (Staff Liaison), Steve Kraft (Council Liaison)

Absent Excused: Lois Sechrist, Richard Juang

1. Meeting Called to Order, Roll Call at 6:02 p.m.
2. Opening Round
 - a. Tim Michels attended the Midwest Energy Policy conference. An energy plan for the State of Missouri will be created by a consultant.
 - b. Scott Eidson discussed the electronics recycling event that will take place on November 15th.
 - c. Bob Elgin attended a Sierra Club building code review meeting as a committee member.
 - d. Monthly topic reporting assignments will be discussed at the next GPC meeting.
3. Approval of Minutes
The September 11, 2014 Green Practices Commission Meeting Minutes were approved with no changes.
4. Special Presentations
No special presentations.
5. New Business
 - a. Dan Oerther has been officially removed from the commission and replaced by Richard Juang.
 - b. A proposed Coal Ordinance was brought to the commission's attention by the mayor through staff. It is unknown who originally proposed this to the mayor. The commission discussed this ordinance; because coal use for electricity generation is not dictated by the City, it was felt this is an advisory ordinance that is not actionable.
 - c. The Delmar Harvard Apartment concept plan was reviewed by the GPC.
 - i. It was recommended to the developer that the energy ordinance be followed to the best of their ability. Tim Michels is developing a "cheat sheet" for this developer (and all) as easy to read instructions for use.

- ii. The plans are in the very early stages.
 - iii. Solid waste, stormwater, native planting, ecologically friendly demolition were all topics that were discussed.
 - d. The recycling promotional flyer as a refuse bill insert was discussed and will be sent out to all residents with their trash bills.
 - e. The Build a Better Block event was discussed regarding the promotion of using some of the empty lot for planting milkweed and other butterfly friendly native plants.
 - f. Jenny will volunteer at the University City section of the Trash Bash (organized by MSD and the River Des Peres Watershed Coalition)
6. Old Business
- a. The City will apply for the State Low Interest Energy Loan for approximately \$500,000 based on the energy audit and the energy ordinance.
 - b. Jenny will write up a proposed new “No Idling Policy” removing the clause allowing idling if the temperature is over 90 degrees Fahrenheit. The commission voted on and approved this change. This will be brought before City Council by suggestion of the GPC. Awareness signage will also be suggested to the Public Works Director.
 - c. Jenny and Scott will set up a meeting to review the current website and make suggested changes.
7. Reports
- a. Ecosystem/Habitat: Dianne discussed the weed ordinance and the necessity to implement this. Dianne will talk to the Green Center to set up a presentation to the GPC. Mr. Kraft will encourage Andrea Riganti to assist with this effort..
 - b. Council Liaison Report:
 - i. Mr. Kraft indicated that the trolley bids were \$11,000,000 over budget. The project will be rebid.
 - ii. Mr. Kraft suggested that the GPC use their expertise to work on a strategy for the use of solar panels on city owned buildings, as well as installing our own streetlights.
8. Closing Round
- a. Tim and Jeff will plan to attend the Council meeting when the State Low Interest Energy Loan application is discussed.
9. Meeting Adjourned – 7:41 p.m.