



## Green Practices Commission

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### Meeting Minutes – University City Green Practices Commission

**February 12, 2015**  
**DRAFT**

Location: Heman Park Community Center  
Attendees Present: Lois Sechrist, Dianne Benjamin, Jeff Mishkin, Bob Elgin, Richard Juang, Tim Michels, Jenny Wendt (staff Liaison), Steve Kraft (Council Liaison)  
Guest: Andrea Riganti, Director of Community Development  
Absent Excused: Scott Eidson

1. Meeting called to Order, Roll Call at 6:12 p.m.
2. Opening Round
  - a) Jeff Mishkin asked how to get involved in the Delmar/Harvard Project
  - b) Lois attended a climate change conference for hospitals
  - c) Jeff Mishkin congratulated Tim Michels for working with Jenny and City Staff to secure the State Energy Loan for the City.
  - d) Bob Elgin mentioned the hospital in Pasadena that collapsed.
  - e) Tim Michels suggested we start gathering information now for the next state loan application that is due in April.
  - f) Steve Kraft congratulated the commission on the state loan and the progress made.
  - g) Andrea Riganti encouraged commission members to join a focus group for the comprehensive plan.
3. January 8, 2015 Green Practices Commission Meeting Minutes approved.
4. Special Presentations
  - a) Community Development – Overview of weed code/ordinance – Andrea Riganti distributed the new weed code/ordinance. Most of the verbiage was accepted as stated. There was concern about no definition for noxious weeds. After discussion, the ordinance amendment was approved.  
Mr. Kraft suggested someone from the GPC attend the council meeting for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> reading. He also suggested literature or promotional piece be given to the public – gardening clubs, green center, UCB, etc.
5. New Business
  - a) Environmental Education Local Grants Program Brainstorm – The GPC discussed this grant opportunity and decided not to pursue the grant this year.
  - b) State Energy Program – EERE – grant opportunity brainstorm – Tim, Jeff, and Jenny will review the grant opportunity to determine if this is something the City

should pursue.

## 6. Old Business

- a) State Low Interest Energy Loan project update – An RFQ for the HVAC work will be developed and distributed to several (at least 3) consulting groups. The lighting will be split up into major projects and the more general interior projects. An RFP or IFP will be put developed and distributed to several (at least 3) electrical/lighting groups. The interior projects (replacing fluorescent tubes, exit lights, etc.) will be handled in-house.
- b) The City was awarded a grant from the St. Louis Jefferson Solid Waste Management District for updates to the recycling drop-off area.
- c) Loop commercial recycling program start-up/St. Louis County Grant opportunity – The City will pursue the St. Louis County Department of Health grant opportunity for financial assistance to help expand the commercial customer base in order to increase recycling, as well as purchase street-side recycling containers for the Loop.
- d) Milkweed for Monarch update – Dianne went to the Green Center for a meeting about monarch waystations. It is proposed that waystations be all over the city. A restoration specialist from Forest Park presented.

## 7. Reports

- a) Waste/Resource Conservation: Bob Elgin has been learning the University City Solid Waste programs. He found many discrepancies on the website about items that can/cannot be recycled.
- b) Council Liaison Report: Councilmember Kraft indicated the reduction of Monarch Butterflies has a lot to do with the weedkiller Roundup and is glad to see progress in U City to conserve butterflies.

## 8. Closing Round

- a) Tim and Dianne will be part of the environmental focus group for the comprehensive plan.
- b) Dianne passed out flyers for the Lucky U City Casino Night that is on 3-14-15, which is the first 5 numbers of  $\pi$ .

## 9. Meeting adjourned: 7:30pm