

Sustainability Commission
Meeting Minutes

MEETING DATE	January 7, 2019
PLACE	City Hall, Second Floor Conference Room
MEETING CALLED TO ORDER	4:04 p.m.
MEETING ADJOURNED	5:08 p.m.

ROLL CALL

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
John Berendzen		X
Elizabeth Bloomfield-Deal		X
Kim Cole	X	
Deborah Frank		X
Danelle Haake	X	
Jamie Hasemeier	X	
Erik Lueders	X	
Padraic McGrath	X	
Jeffrey Tomich	X	

Also Present

Steve Wylie, Staff Liaison; Gerry Welch, City Council Liaison.

1. Kim called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m. and Danelle called the roll.
2. Minutes from December 3 were reviewed. Jeff moved to approve; Erik seconded, and the motion to approve passed.
3. Green Cities Challenge (GCC) – Erik provided a summary of potential steps moving forward. We may want to present information on our success this year to City Council in order to build momentum and increase buy-in on future sustainability efforts associated with the GCC. The Green Team at the Rec Center was successful and should continue, possibly with a liaison from this commission. We should move forward with the GCC for next year with Public Works as a primary area of focus; to facilitate this, the commission would like to hold some sort of information/brainstorming session or workshop with appropriate staff members.
For our next meeting, we will revisit a previous general strategic planning effort from about 3 years ago to help set future priorities for the commission.
4. Renewable Choice – Jeffrey shared information on Ameren’s Renewable Choice program, which is an energy purchase option that contributes funds to the generation of new renewable energy sources (the Pure Power program we currently participate in subsidizes renewable sources that have already been installed). To participate, we would submit a non-binding interest form designating what percent of our energy we want to have from the program. Ameren sends out an RFP; responses must include a not-to-exceed price. At this point the city would decide whether or not to sign a 15-year contract. The deadline to submit the interest form is soon. The commission recommends that the city submit the non-binding form and then evaluate the resulting bid.

5. Recycling – Jamie spoke with Karen about two new grants that the city has received or is applying for. They are focused on recycling education. They are developing a 12-18 month plan with a cohesive message to encourage proper recycling. There is a good chance we will be setting up a separate option for glass recycling that will send glass to a local end-user and decrease the weight of material for the hauler.
6. Bike Sharing – Steve updated the commission that the ordinance and permit application have been drafted. The former city attorney signed off on them, but the new attorney is taking a look before they are sent to City Council.
7. Misc – There is a pilot roadside composting project with St. Louis Compost that we will keep an eye on.
The city is looking to purchase new chairs. The commission recommends looking into reupholstering the existing chairs as an option that will reduce our contribution to the waste stream and potentially save money. If the city elects to purchase new chairs, the BIFMA Furniture Sustainability Standard level should be reviewed as part of the process. If the city is considering any capital improvements involving energy efficiency, there is a low interest loan/revolving fund that will provide funds for things like lighting upgrades and the loan is paid off with the cost savings from the efficiency of the upgrade(s). Applications are accepted in February and sometime in the fall.
8. Next meeting will be Monday, February 4 at 4:00 p.m.
9. Padraic moved to close the meeting, Jamie seconded, and motion passed at 5:08 p.m. to adjourn.