

Sustainability Committee

City of Roeland Park, KS

Agenda

Thursday, May 19, 2022, 4:00 pm (rescheduled from 1st Thursday)

Virtual Online Meeting

The purpose of the Sustainability Committee is to make recommendations to the Governing Body concerning issues relating to or affecting environmental sustainability.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/99339586327>

Meeting ID: 993 3958 6327

Committee:

Judy Hyde, Chair; David Smith; Carol Fields; Melissa Castillo

Wade Holtkamp, City Liaison; Jen Hill and Benjamin Dickens, City Council liaisons

Members in attendance:

Liaison(s) in attendance:

Guest(s) in attendance:

Call to Order:

Approval of minutes:

Additions to the Agenda:

Old Business:

New Business:

Updates:

- Go Green 2022! Environmental Fair (Judy)
- Cooper Creek Park Restoration Project (Judy)

Discussion (ongoing):

- Continuing discussion regarding **budget objective(s)** and **projects of interest**
 - Current SustComm funds available: \$3,655.68
 - Native plants/trees as a budget expenditure?
 - Consider price per tree when placing trees in parks
 - R Park Prairie Project
 - Replace grass verges on Roe leading to highway with native flowers?
 - Tree canopy community education?
 - County recycling education?
- **Climate Action KC Plan** and related questions:
 - **Energy**
 - State and Federal incentive programs

- **Transportation**
 - GoDotte Strategic Mobility Plan: City will respond to GoDotte plan when it is presented
- **Solid Waste**
- **Food Systems**
 - Food scrap composting
- **Single-use plastics**
 - Review options for a city reduction policy for single-use plastics.
 - Possible container/item deposits?
- **Land Use and Housing**
- **Green building codes**
 - Develop recommendations for City Council regarding Green Building Codes for new development/construction.
 - Ex: The Rocks development
 - Encourage developer to use a cool roof (light, reflects sunlight), green roof, or solar roof? Permeable paving? Substantial use of trees? Other?
 - Include regulations for reducing light pollution
- **Urban Greening**
 - RPK Tree Canopy Protection Ordinance continues in development.
 - City will survey to determine which trees are in right-of-way vs. public property
 - Provide information regarding benefits of tree canopy protection
 - Provide information regarding invasive vines choking old oak trees (Melissa)
 - Develop/recommend an invasive plant species ordinance?
 - Tree planting is part of sequestration; needs to be done now.
 - Potentially plant native trees with Heartland Tree Alliance?
- **Light pollution**
 - City transitioned to LED lights for streetlamps, need more detail on light hooding & lumens levels
 - Still room for reduction, and new construction can address light pollution issues
 - Review Dark-Sky recommendation to reduce light pollution.
 - Big office buildings should shut off all non-essential lights, especially during spring/fall migration.
- **Other**
 - Cigarette butts are a major source of pollution
 - Should City require/provide cigarette butt receptacles for businesses?
 - Windy weather presents issues
 - Businesses are not cleaning their grounds often enough
 - Cleaning crews not collecting butts
 - Code Enforcement
 - Should police prioritize punishing littering? How to address that issue?
 - Per Eric Nelson, Johnson County Environmental Health Specialist's February 2022 presentation on JoCo programs and initiatives regarding business sustainability
 - Get multi-use development property managers on board with recycling
 - Per Karen Clawson's September 2021 MARC presentation
 - Designate a city resilience manager?
 - Collaborative framework for local governments to participate on their own terms

- Possible collaboration between NE JoCo cities?

Ongoing:

- SustComm newsletter submissions (Judy & all)
- SustComm quarterly Council update (Judy)
- SustComm Community Foundation update (Judy)
- Facebook posts (Judy)
- DynamHex carbon emission reduction audits (further response by SustComm as needed)
- Pesticide/Herbicide reduction/elimination recommendation
- Continue CFAA policies to maintain certification; update MARC on an annual basis (required every 3 years)
- SustComm to **continue virtual meetings** for now. Return to in-person meetings in future?

On Hold:

- **Nall Park vegetative green screening/wall proposed**
- Discuss acquiring or developing a variety of Sustainability-related posters, brochures, or other handouts (for various events, etc.). Consider paperless options.

Adjourn:

Next Meeting: June 2 [virtual meeting 4:00 pm]