



## GREEN INITIATIVE CITIZEN TASK FORCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes for: Thursday, May 8, 2008

The Green Initiative Citizen Task Force Committee held their first meeting on Thursday, May 8, 2008. The meeting was held at Leawood City Hall in the Main Conference Room, 4800 Town Center Drive, Leawood, KS 66211. The meeting began at 7:30 AM.

In attendance were:

Debra Filla, Councilmember and Chair of the Committee

James Azeltine, Councilmember Liaison

Lisa Cooper

Paula J. Cornwell

Camille Croteau

David Crupper

Alicia Jennings

Carolyn O'Malley

Bob Pierson

Staff in attendance:

Scott Lambers, City Administrator

Julie Stasi, Administrative Services Manager, Leawood Public Works Department

Chair Deb Filla welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:30AM.

Committee members and staff introduced themselves and gave a brief background of themselves and their interest in the green initiative, citizen task force.

Chair Filla asked Scott Lambers to distribute to the committee a February memo he had addressed to the Mayor and City Council, referencing: "Green Initiative; Citizen Task Force". [As there was no previous committee packet, the memo was described and will be attached to these minutes].

Scott Lambers advised the committee that there are three areas of green environmental issues/concerns:

1. What is the City's responsibility?
2. What is the Community Development-Building Codes responsibility?
3. What is the citizen's responsibility?

Scott Lambers advised the concentration for this committee should be on the third area and that is of the citizen's responsibility. Scott advised that when he was researching the activities, he heard different numbers and felt one of the first things we needed to do determine would be to find out to what extend Leawood residents are recycling. Get a true benchmark of that and then figure out ways we can make this work.

Communication is another tool we can use. The City has a web page and that can be another way to educate and make people aware of green issues.

Scott Lambers advised this committee was created to begin with a one (1) year task force. The committee would then have a mid-year update to the Council and a one-year update at a work session with the Council.

In their discussions, the committee came up with the following:

<p><b><u>Centers of Influence</u></b> City of Leawood Schools Families Homes Associations Businesses/Retail establishments Youth Groups/i.e. Scouts Joe Citizen Churches Social Clubs/i.e. Lions Club etc.</p>
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Areas of concern:

Recycling/Waste (reduce, reuse, recycle)  
Mobility/Walking/Bikes  
Greening - Trees – Water  
Conservation (throw it away, where is “away”?)

For all of the above areas, the committee felt a category for each could be education, specific initiatives and objective/action/measures were important.

The committee asked if there was a budget established for the group and it was advised there was not. Suggestions were that possibly we could find a sponsorship for educational packets or other expenses that we come up with.

Chair Filla lead the discussion into greater detail on recycling.

David suggested surveying neighbors. It was agreed to gather information and survey neighborhoods and homes associations to find information on current recycling efforts.

1. Who is in charge and what are they offering their residents?
2. How many of their households participate?
3. How much tonnage is collected?
4. Of what is recycled, what is performed?  
(compost, recycling, trash)

All agreed that a baseline and measureable results would be our focus. Another suggestion was to focus on Apartments which today only recycle paper.

Scott Lambers advised that Deffenbaugh does provide a quarterly report to the City on what they collect, however it is not broken down by homes associations.

Disposal companies in the Leawood area are Deffenbaugh, Town & Country, and possibly Waste Management/BFI.

Scott Lambers talked about the current landfill that Deffenbaugh has and advised that Deffenbaugh has said they expect to be at capacity in the year 2020-2022. After that, the trash will have to go elsewhere.

Chair Filla thanked Councilmember James Azeltine for being a liason to the county on their efforts regarding County landfill of which 30% is from non Kansas sources.

- MARC has a Solid Waste Management District [www.marc.org/swdm](http://www.marc.org/swdm) and promotes the following site: [www.RecycleSpot.org](http://www.RecycleSpot.org)

Staff will provide the current list of Homes Associations on file to the committee members. Staff will also set up a group email for the committee members to communicate.

Scott Lambers also advised an Intern would be hired soon to provide staff support to this committee.

Chair Filla asked David and Lisa to committee members to work in their wards of the city to try to survey their block, finding the information that they can.

The committee decided to meet once a week initially. Thursday mornings are good for the group at 7:30AM. The committee decided to meet every Thursday morning until June 5 and then another schedule can be looked at. Deb Filla asked the members to email her if they cannot make the meeting.

Deb Filla also asked the task force members to write down their ideas for the next meeting in order to share and categorize at our next meeting. Ideas shared in the meeting were:

\*Don't reinvent the wheel.

\*Research what other cities have done. The following cities leading in Green Initiatives were mentioned: Houston, Portland, Small town in AZ "1<sup>st</sup> Green City", Columbia, MO.

\*MARC has an [Academy for Sustainable Communities](#)

\*Designate special close in parking for hybrid cars

\*Dovetail hazardous/toxic waste collection with Halloween and coordinate recycling/future activities City events already planned; such as Easter.

\*Review the City of Leawood for 'green friendly' searches.

\*Important to tap into schools and leverage service projects.

\*Create incentives for schools, pins, magnets, contests, pizza parties

Camille to work with Chris Claxton of Parks and Rec which sponsors the Fall Halloween event.

The meeting adjourned at 9:04 AM.

Minutes taken by Julie Stasi.

Attachments 2  
memo  
sign-in-sheet