



GREEN INITIATIVE CITIZEN TASK FORCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes for: Thursday, May 22, 2008

The Green Initiative Citizen Task Force Committee met on Thursday, May 22, 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.

Members in attendance:

Debra Filla, Councilmember and Chair of the Committee
James Azeltine, Councilmember Liaison, Co-Chair
Paula J. Cornwell
Camille Croteau
David Crupper
Alicia Jennings
Carolyn O'Malley
Bob Pierson
Cindy Thesing

Members Absent:

Lisa Cooper

Staff in attendance:

Scott Lambers, City Administrator
Julie Stasi, Administrative Services Manager, Leawood Public Works Department

Chair Deb Filla called the meeting to order at 7:39 AM.

Newest Member Cindy Thesing was introduced to the group and was welcomed to the meeting.

Alicia Jennings made Motion to approve the minutes of May 15, 2008.

Camille Croteau seconded the motion. All members were in favor; Motion passed.

Chair Filla reviewed the packet of material prepared for the meeting and noticed the information on "Lenexa's Dumpster Day".

Staff Member Stasi advised that in response to the groups previous inquiries about such an event, had requested and received information from the City of Lenexa on their recent "dumpster day". The packet explains the dates of the event and what was collected. Deffenbaugh charges and breakdowns of those charges were included in the packet. Julie advised that Leawood's Superintendent had also spoken to Lenexa to confirm the information and

outlined some of the concerns that the City would need to plan for if Leawood conducted a Dumpster Day. For comparison, Lenexa's population is 47,000 and Leawood is around 30,000. Concerns included: equipment that would need to be rented or staff scheduled to be on hand to monitor dumpsters.

Another handout in the packet listed 600+ Leawood retailers that could be contacted by this group in their recycling efforts.

Homes Association Lists are outdated and are continuously updated as associations call the City.

Chair Filla explained again that the group is making an effort to recycle. The Homes Associations are the entity that handles trash from the residents. If we are aiming to tackle a project with recycling, the goal would be to increase recycling, increase composting, and decrease trash.

We need to contact and work with the Homes Associations to find out what they are doing now in terms of recycling. Out of their numbers of households, how many are participating in a recycling program? Of the recycling, do we know the volume of what is being collected?

Carolyn O'Malley-Numbers have been unavailable from Deffenbaugh. Tonnage reports from subdivisions are not available.

Bob Pierson-Would like a first task to be to get the Homes Association lists up to date and with more information. The list should probably include how often they meet, is there an annual board meeting, and who is in charge of their association. The homes associations have a very important part in this program.

Bob Pierson-Did get information from Town and Country. There are 8 associations that have Town & Country. Bob received a percent of compost that has been diverted and the amount of recycling that has been collected. Leawood Homes Association was at 55%, Leawood Estates was 60%, some of the others are 40 to 45% in the recycling program. For example, their association had diverted 2,300 cubic yards of composting and 207 tons of recycling in their homes association. Bob mentioned that their association came together with another one and got a better rate for their trash service.

Chair Filla-Asked if the trash service is typically through the associations? Or how does the City get involved in trash service?

Scott Lambers-Those cities that are involved in the trash pick up, enter into franchise agreements with private providers. Typically they divide their cities in half and then take bids for those areas.

Chair Filla-asked about the thought of either having the City do something on a city wide basis, or be more involved as a sponsor for the associations.

Scott Lambers advised that the City is not set up for this type of function. Possibly we could set up and a franchise and open it up to bidders to provide the service. That would be a fee that would then be added to/through property taxes. We would need to see a copy of their contracts and fees and do a mill levy evaluation to see if these types of services could be offered.

Bob Pierson-Advised that Prairie Village has an agreement with Deffenbaugh and if certain homes or associations want to opt out they can do that.

Deb Filla-suggested that possibly the committee could invite the associations to come to a common meeting.

Scott Lambers-advised the group that on June 13, 2008, the Mid America Regional Council is hosting their 12th annual regional assembly. Mr. Lambers advised that the topic is "Building Sustainable Partnerships" and that if any of the Green Task Force Committee members would like to attend, the City would pay for it. Please notify the City Administrators office if you would like to attend.

Deb Filla-Would like to have about 3 members on this committee form a sub-committee to work on an end goal that the group may want to have. Example: How to handle the hazardous waste pickup, or drop off areas and trash/recycle items. Then if we can come up with an action item or long term plan, we can then present that to the homes associations to get their input. *Suggested members are Bob Pierson, Deb Filla and Camille Croteau.*

Scott Lambers mentioned that in regards to the associations, The Leawood Foundation picked a Thursday night (when most people do not have other commitments) and sent a direct mailing to the associations, inviting the president and representatives to come out, have a drink and appetizers to learn about projects in Leawood, and they had no one turn out. Mr. Lambers suggested this committee pick a date way out in advance and reserve the Lodge. It is going to take the work of the committee members to get the information and the word out.

David Crupper-distributed copies of a machine in Oregon that is used for recycling. David will make an attempt to contact the State Representative to find out more on this avenue.

Chair Filla advised there would not be a meeting on May 29th.

James Azeltine offered to contact Philip Askey, P.G., with Johnson County's Environmental Office as a speaker at the June 5 meeting.

Chair Filla also thought another sub-group of 3 members for working with children in the Kindergarten to Senior High School on Community and Service Projects ought to be formed. *Suggested members for this group are Cindy Thesing, Lisa Cooper and Paula Cornwell.*

Chair Filla-Would like Lisa Cooper and David Crupper to work on the Mission Statement as they have some good examples that this group could start with.

Recycling areas of Ranch Mart, Post Office on 95th and City Parks were mentioned.

Scott Lambers expressed concern about staff going to households for hazardous waste and that certain precautions would need to be made such as wearing special clothing, etc. Our Parks and Recreation Director also expressed concern about combining children/student events with collecting hazardous waste materials. Protective clothing needs to be worn and this is probably something we would not want to have students do.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 AM.

Minutes transcribed by Julie Stasi.