



GREEN INITIATIVE CITIZEN TASK FORCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes for: Thursday, June 19, 2008

The Green Initiative Citizen Task Force Committee met on Thursday, June 19, 2008. The meeting was held at Leawood City Hall in the Main Conference Room, 4800 Town Center Drive, Leawood, KS 66211. The meeting start time scheduled for 7:30 AM.

Members in attendance:

Debra Filla, Councilmember and Chair of the Committee
Paula J. Cornwell
Camille Croteau
Kevin Jeffries
Alicia Jennings
Carolyn O'Malley
Bob Pierson
Cindy Thesing

Members Absent:

James Azeltine, Councilmember Liaison, Co-Chair
Lisa Cooper
David Crupper

Staff in attendance:

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

- Chair Deb Filla called the meeting to order at 7:45 AM.
- Draft Minutes from June 12, 2008 were reviewed. Alicia Jennings made motion to approve the minutes as corrected. All were in favor; Motion passed unanimously.

VISION STATEMENT: *Greening* with Distinction.

Mission Statement

The Leawood Green Initiative Citizen Task Force will lead, motivate, collaborate, and educate Leawood citizens to increase recycling, encourage energy conservation, and greener mobility options in the City of Leawood.

NOTE: See last page of these minutes for corrected DRAFT.

The committee is developing City supported initiatives to increase recycling, energy conservation and greener mobility among Leawood Residents and Leawood Businesses.

The Green Initiative Task Force Committee: Lead-Motivate-Collaborate

Alicia Jennings made a motion to approve the Mission Statement. Camille Croteau seconded the motion, all were in favor. Motion passed.

- **The group discussed the proposed meeting with the Homes Associations.** Scott Lambers offered City vans to be used to pick up Homes Associations attendees that needed a ride to the meeting. Also suggested Fire Stations as locations they could go for pick up/drop off. Would prefer we go the extra mile and pick them up at their door. We would need confirmation of the people and City Staff can do the pick up. A 6PM start time would be better than 5 or 5:30PM.

Kevin Jeffries and Cynthia Thesing are going to work on calling the Homes Association contacts. It would also be helpful to get any emails they might have.

Staff informed the committee to keep in mind that Jan Shafer, the City's main switchboard receptionist keeps the City's Homes Association list. If any member finds new info, please share it with the City by sending it to JanS@leawood.org.

Kevin Jeffries added that after the Taste of Leawood Party, there will be party favor bags left over that could possibly be used for the fall homes association meeting.

Deb Filla-Due to his experience with his own associations' trash contract, Deb asked that Bob Pierson to head up one of the sub-committees regarding contracts.

- **The group reviewed the Centers of Influence spreadsheet.** Paula Cornwell has been working on it however has not received anything new, but there were a few items that might need to be reviewed. A couple suggestions under conservation; plastic bag use, adjustments of thermostats, clothes line use approval, encouragement-hot water temperature issues. Encouraging bio-degradable poop pick-up (instead of plastic bags).

Deb Filla-What is something we do that is in our infrastructure. There are two things that are infrastructure; one is the potential banning or taxing our plastics. And in there comes the education with why you do not want to use them and what are the alternatives (this is an incredible campaign because it can be a problem forever and ever). Secondly, clotheslines. There are some homes associations that do not allow clothes lines. You have to have a City initiative that says for the purposes of Greening, you

can have out but we need to be sensitive to issues like the neat factor...only at a certain time, not having them in the front yard, etc. These are things that may be set and we have to not only educate people, but we have to make sure if we should decide to address this topic that we understand how our City ordinance may come into play in order to override things that help the environment.

So those are two that I see along with energy conservation that brings me back to my thought; a lot of that is not recreating the wheel, but updating our web sites to be sure that we have a reference for our citizens or pointers.

Kevin Jeffries-Maybe there is something we can give to our citizens to encourage them to not use plastic bags, similar to the Taste of Leawood bags. Something that they could use over and over.

Deb Filla-Mentioned bags that maybe left over from the Leawood 60th celebration order that could be used for the fall meeting possibly. We can have a party favor bag and have information/statistics in there for the residents.

Cindy Thesing-Make it simple. The brochure is informative but it has a lot of words on there and some people will not take the time at the end of the day to read all of this. We need to inform them in a baby step way, explaining that 41% of the landfill is full of paper etc.

Kevin Jeffries-Explained how he rented containers to recycle at the Taste of Leawood Event. The rental fee was very nominal. The containers easily show people what is to be placed inside, they are very visual. The Chamber rented the containers from Bridging the Gap. One of the challenges is to have a business to pay for the building of a shed to store these in Johnson County somewhere. As of now, we have to go all the way to Bannister Mall in Missouri to pick them up. Kevin is renting eleven of these containers for \$60. Also, the Chamber is renting a recycling dumpster from Deffenbaugh for \$35.00. It is a mixed recycle dumpster that you put bottles and cans in. So for \$100 for the Taste of Leawood, we are going to be able to recycle all the bottles and cans. And we're guessing we'll have somewhere around 100 cases of this stuff.

Cindy Thesing-In the future, there is a company that will give out recycling for aluminum and they will deliver it for free, they will pick it up and they will pay you for that aluminum. Mentioned a church that they visited a couple weeks ago. The church does a paper recycling through a company (and this is a small parish of about 400 people). They have three large bins. They fill these bins within their community and all three bins every other week are picked up and they get about \$150 to \$175 for the paper and they get about \$75 to \$100 for the aluminum. However they just started the aluminum, so they've only had 2 months of people remembering to bring it. They are catching on.

Kevin Jeffries-With one time events like the Taste of Leawood, that is a little more challenging, because it's here today and gone tomorrow, but places like the City Parks and locations like that. For every event they have them, thinks the City could potentially make money off of it. We'll experiment with it at this event and see what happens. Think though, what if the bins were all over the park during the Fourth of July. They say you should have one wherever there is a trash can. So if people take their trash there, they make a conscious choice. It works better if the bins are emptied when they are about half full, so as to keep spillage to a minimum.

The group wanted to have the containers more available when the community has events at their schools and churches. If we keep seeing it everywhere we go, it becomes habit.

Bob Pierson-Advised they use these at their Village event and unfortunately, they have to be dug through and sorted out, because people still dump things in there that they should not. They really need a sign that says, remove the lid, remove the liquid. They do not always work. We need signs and more education about their use.

Deb Filla-For the fall meeting, information on these containers would be good to have to hand out. This could be one education piece to explain how to recycle for an event. We also mentioned getting a hold of Julie Coon and looking for more educational materials. What is recyclable? We want to have education with easels, speakers, take away items. What all can we use and what will we need to create?

The Committee talked about individual tasks.

Paula Cornwell said that her and Lisa were going to get together on how to engage leadership in the schools.

Deb Filla-Mentioned having a Bridging the Gap person here to go over items and we can find some specific items to look at. Also asking Julie Coon here from Johnson County Environmental Office so we can review recycling items. This will help prepare with our presentation/meeting.

Cindy Thesing-mentioned talking with Deffenbaugh and finding out exactly from them what they take and what they can recycle. For schools, there are quizzes that you can give the children. Let them go through and figure out what is earth friendly.

Bob Pierson-Items with food in them are not allowed.

Alicia Jennings-Items like foil drink pouches, what do we do with those? There are many household items that we all use that we do now know how to recycle, or if we can.

Deb Filla-Asking Scott Lambers, who do we work with to get information into the schools?

Scott Lambers-It would be better for the council representatives on the committee to make a report to the City Council and request that the City Council direct the City Administrator to ask the school board (both Shawnee Mission and Blue Valley) to allow a recycling contest and/or green information/essays to be considered. The school boards have to sanction the directive to the teachers to include the information in their curriculum. You might want to select a grade to aim at. The younger probably the better, such as the top grade in the elementary school (5th, 6th) grade.

Alicia Jennings-advised the prototype school for this is Belinder. They have recycling programs, green education; it's amazing what those kids are doing. They have no idle zones, they have walk to school. The school is located at 71st & Belinder, in Prairie Village. A suggested person to contact is a Ms. Piper Reamer (a mom from Mission Hills) who has worked with Belinder School programs.

Deb Filla advised she would not be able to attend the July 7th City Council Meeting. Scott Lambers advised Deb that she would need to get with James Azeltine to have him ask the Mayor about this so they could bring it up as a council report so that this could get to the school district in July. They would have to coordinate it as part of their curriculum.

Deb Filla asked Cindy Thesing to take that information and work with James Azeltine on that. Paula Cornwell and Cindy Thesing may have some ideas on what the schools that win could receive, example an award, plaque for the school or something to hang in their hall and something small for the child to have. Ideas: pizza party, little plaque to hang or something delivered by fireman etc.

Bob Pierson-said in his past experience they found a teacher in the school to head up the program. They went to the principal first or a science teacher; one who is really involved in the environment is a good contact to have for these types of things or committee.

Scott Lambers-We really need to restrict this to Leawood schools. Regardless of where they are from, but that way the whole class can participate.

Deb Filla-We might look at an award for Leawood schools and one award for any citizen that might participate. We might have three different things; best essay, best class participation, whatever, so please take a look at that and come back to James and Scott with your ideas.

- **Centers of Influence-MOBILITY**

Deb Filla mentioned that we have not talked much about mobility. The other thought is, do we wait until after the fall homes association meeting and then come back and get that part in the fall. We can start gathering information now however.

Alicia Jennings-Cities can apply to be designated as bicycle friendly city. The City of Shawnee, Kansas has done that. It requires a certain number of streets with bicycle signs, or painted lanes. Alicia would be glad to follow up on that issue.

Deb Filla-Another item we might be able to influence along mobility is to change the pedestrian crosswalks (similar to what Prairie Village and our new developments are doing). Different material or color in the walkways, making them pavers or wider. Is that outside of our task? How do we influence that?

Scott Lambers-It could be city or development group that would look at that. That is already required on our internal applications. We do that for our streets.

Deb Filla-Mentioned a short stretch of road (85th Terrace) between State Line Road and Lee Boulevard. This area is not very pedestrian friendly, yet it links retailers to residential. We are doing this in multi use areas around Town Center, etc. but we do not have the same kind of infrastructure. I'd like to pick that spot and ask how can we increase the mobility of the area. As a pedestrian, I do not feel comfortable walking in the area. Other areas besides schools and new areas out south, just trying to think of other areas already out there that could be improved for mobility.

Paula Cornwell-Advised she is a Sprint employee and Sprint just had a survey of their 14,000 employees to ask about what they would be willing to do and what their interest would be with various resources with MARC and ride shares etc. There may be some specific action in the future in looking at people that are having to commute a long way and looking for options.

Deb Filla-Another avenue of mobility, ask ourselves how Segway friendly are we? Are there easements or what kind of trails can we put through. Very futuristic planning.

Scott Lambers-Bicyclists would have a hard time if we allowed Segways, golf carts, smart cars etc.

NEXT STEPS



- **TASKS:** Individual group meetings with Committee Members, working on homes association plans and assignments.
 - ~ Kevin, Cindy, Bob working on the Associations Lists.
 - ~ Alicia working on back boards. Does Julie Coon have info we can use? Could they make us a set of pictures, example of the landfill? Think about different audiences, schools, lions groups, residents, etc.
 - ~ Cindy education for the schools. How much do they have that we can use.
 - ~ Cindy & Camille work on the caterer for the Lodge info.
 - ~ Scott has volunteered staff and the transportation.
 - ~ Deb Filla will work on speakers and noted that the Mayor has committed for October 9th.

- Many of the committee planned to attend the Municipal Green Committee Meeting at the Powell Community Center, June 19, 2008 at 7:00 PM.

- **Summer Schedule**
Next Green meeting scheduled for Thursday,
July 31, 2008-7:30 AM
Leewood City Hall, Main Conference Room.

- **Meeting invite:** Stormwater Management Committee Meeting scheduled for Friday, August 8, 2008-7:30 AM
Speaker-Rescheduled for September... Stay Tuned for UPDATED TIME!
The Stormwater Management Committee has invited the Green Initiative Task Force Committee to attend this meeting and listen to speakers on "Rain Gardens" and "Bio-Retention".

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 AM.
Minutes transcribed by Julie Stasi.
Olympus File DS300011.WMA

Subsequent emails regarding the Mission Statement after it was seen in print; were suggested to be edited as follows:

Leewood Green Initiative Citizen Task Force

VISION STATEMENT:
Greening with Distinction

Mission Statement:

To lead, motivate, and collaborate with Leewood citizens to increase recycling, encourage energy conservation, and promote 'green' mobility options in the City of Leewood.