

**GREEN INITIATIVE CITIZEN TASK FORCE
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2008
7:30 A.M., Leawood City Hall, Main Conference Room**

Members Present

Debra Filla, Chair, Lisa Cooper, Camille Croteau, Kevin Jeffries (Honorary member/Advisor), Alicia Jennings, Cindy Thesing, Paula Cornwell, Caroline O'Malley, Bob Pierson

Members Absent

James Azeltine-Vice Chair, David Crupper

Staff Present

Joe Johnson, Director of Public Works
George Ertle, Administrative Intern
Karen Rust, Administrative Assistant, Public Works Department

Guests

Maureen Kenny, 2905 W. 92nd Street, Leawood, KS 66206

Chair Filla began the meeting at 7:30AM. Chair Filla welcomed guest Maureen Kenny to the group and asked her to introduce herself.

Maureen Kenny- advised she worked at Hallmark and is a Design Studio Manager and has always been a tree hugger and had been involved in the homes association but not found a deep satisfaction with that. However when she heard about the Green Committee, she was interested in participating and has a passion for this topic. Ms. Kenny advised that Hallmark is becoming a more green company and they have new initiatives starting to move that way.

Kevin Jeffries-Asked about the status of the invitations.

Karen Rust-Advised she was sitting in for Julie Stasi and that the invitations had been mailed.

The Committee discussed that they wanted to make sure Deffenbaugh representatives were at the Homes Association Meeting if possible. They will not be scheduled to speak, however it would be good to have them present.

Chair Filla asked about the agenda for the days meeting and it was suggested that the bicycle information be added along with an update on recycling in the City Parks.

It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda and task assignments. All in favor; motion passed.

Cindy Thesing-Asked about businesses in Leawood and their ability to recycle.

Is there a City ordinance that would allow them to if they wanted to? It had been indicated that the Planning Commission would be working on that issue. Have they started that?

Chair Filla advised that it has not. The idea was first to get the Green Citizen Task Force started. The responsibilities that fall under the Planning Commission, would be things such as codes, building materials and other items. Our new community development director Richard Coleman who came on board a month ago, will have a broader role that covers this area and was Scott's thought that would come follow after the citizen task force

Cindy Thesing-Do they have a separate committee to deal with those kinds of issues?

Chair Filla-Said that is a good question and she can ask the City Administrator about the timing of those issues. (This would be one of the recommendations from the Green Committee to back to the Council).

These Minutes were approved by the Green Task Force at their September 25th, 2008 meeting.

Cindy Thesing-Can't imagine that we wouldn't want all these businesses to be able to recycle if they want to.

Kevin Jeffries-Went to DEMDACO last week and noticed that they have started their own program. They take cans to one of their warehouses to recycle. Demdaco has to actually take their van and take all the cans out. They have to do all the work; there are no haulers to do it for them. There are different programs out there, but unfortunately you almost need a staff person to work it.

Cindy Thesing-Someone mentioned that Starbucks had hundreds of plastic milk jugs that just get thrown in the trash because they can't recycle.

Kevin Jeffries-It's more because there is a lack of area for a dumpster. The buildings were built for one dumpster. What is prohibited is having the dumpster out into view. So if they want to have another dumpster, it has to be built in something so it is not exposed.

Chair Filla-the Code is that the trash receptacle needs to be enclosed.

Committee feels like this is a big issue, if the City is really trying to advance the recycling efforts.

Alicia Jennings-mentioned the Post Office as well. They do not recycle, and everything goes into the trash; boxes, envelopes, so many things.

Chair Filla-had changes to make to the past minutes of August 28th. Well email some wording changes.

Kevin Jeffries-mentioned he was not really a member, more of an advisory member.

Chair Filla-mentioned the agenda for the October Homes Association Meeting was to discuss the waste management contracts and then second was to focus on education.

Chair Filla-advised she had spoken to the Mayor. She encouraged the Committee to use the words "Growing Green Together" or "Growing Green" and avoid using the phrase 'with Distinction'.

Alicia Jennings-spoke about the meeting that she and Debra Filla had with Julie Coon and that she was pretty well prepared for the meeting in October. Panels are being made with information slides from the speech/presentation. Plans are to have the Dot Recycle Spot for our resource recycling and information about recycling available. The information panels are going to be laminated so that we can have a traveling show of this to use at other times.

George Ertle-Had confirmed with Scott Lambers last week about the particulars for the meeting, i.e. no water bottles or items that would cause more trash, when we're trying to make a point about not creating any. Request was made of George to get the specifics regarding set ups and catering plans for the next meeting.

Chair Filla-reviewed the panels that Julie Coon was creating in conjunction with her presentation. The committee discussed the desire to have Julie Coons time line in her message be consistent with the 10 years mentioned in the invitation letter. Making sure the message gets to the associations with the same urgency.

The committee talked about the press release. Lisa Cooper advised she would work with Julie Stasi about different contacts to send the information to.

The committee reviewed the agenda for the October 9th meeting.

Chair Filla advised:

- 6 to 6:30-- Social hour.
- 6:30—Guests seated and introductions
- 6:45 – 7:30 Julie Coon from the Environmental Office will make the presentation. Currently, the presentation is at 45 minutes length; will try to distill it down to 30 minutes if possible.
- 7:30-7:45--Fifteen minutes for questions and answers.
- 7:45 to 8--Call to action, to invite sign ups and to the next meeting in November.

The committee decided to have an educational sheet about the task force including mission/vision and members and including info about the sub committees with Bob Pierson (Waste Management Contract Chair) and Cindy Thesing (Education Chair). Staff members Julie Stasi, Karen Rust and Marica Putman can help prepare those items. We want the flyers to have all the information on them, so the guests can take that info home with them. The committee will also have bags to hand out to the guests. The bags will have various items with green information inside such as recycle spot, flier from Bridging the Gap, etc.

Lisa Cooper-Asked if someone in charge of the City's web site, are they writing something up for the web site for October 9th. The purpose of having the web site would be for a homes association member to go there and obtain more green information. Chair Filla asked Lisa to work with Julie Stasi on that so she can get it to the I.T. people. Discussed having nametags-that have the city logo, words, City of Leawood, and Growing Green Together.

Bob Pierson mentioned Kristin Riott, Director of Community Outreach, Bridging the Gap offered to speak at our meeting. She also has been invited to attend the Prairie Village environmental forum. Kristen was one of two people selected to attend Al Gore's Global Warming Seminar.

Chair Filla- Suggested that because of the time schedule and the need to stay focused on waste management and recycling that it might be confusing to have Kristin speak about Bridging the Gap.

Paula Cornwell- Agreed, need to stay focused on recycling at this meeting. Recycling is good and it costs us a lot of money and is going to cost us more if we do not start. So we need to stay on track that this is the right thing to do.

Chair Filla-Did talk with the Mayor about the bike campaign. The Mayor wants to Alicia to present to the Parks and Recreation Committee and get them on board. The Council approved to defer the approval for filing an application to the Parks and Rec. Committee. Alicia will follow up with Chris Claxton.

George Ertle-Spoke with Julie Coon and she advised the Johnson County Parks are test subjects for recycling in the parks. At Antioch Park it is not working very well. The problem is with the canisters and if there is any kind of refuse, that is included and it is just thrown away. Julie Coon was excited to learn that Leawood may be looking at this. George Ertle has received some information on containers and he has been working with Chris Claxton, Director of Parks and Recreation on this. At the next meeting, we should have more information in order to take this to the Council. George advised the containers are about \$150 each and they will say "Leawood Recycles" on the side.

Paula Cornwell-Reminded everyone that there also was an idea to have sponsors.

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Deb Filla-This will end up being a recommendation from the Committee to have recycling in the Parks and then it will go to the Council for approval and action.

Cindy Thesing-Essay Contest Update. Advised she had spoken to a seventh grade teacher who was very excited about the Essay Contest but suggested that they get the information out to the teachers now so that they can get it in their curriculum.

Paula Cornwell-Will put something together a letter to send to the teachers and get it to the group for review.

Chair Filla-Regarding recycling; let's start with the obvious, paper, plastic and yard waste. Then we have a forum and other avenues we can go to. Web sites to show people hazardous waste, e-waste etc. We do not want to overload them. Start with our recycling and trash contracts, then down the road we can add more.



NEXT STEPS

➤TASKS

- The Next meeting is scheduled for September 25, 2008.
- The Stormwater Committee has invited the Green Committee to their meeting tomorrow, September 12, 2008 to talk about Rain Gardens.
- Oct. 9th meeting of HOAs
- November 6th Meeting with Homes Associations; a work session with the two groups of Waste Contract Management and Education (of the Homes Associations).

Comments from Cindy Thesing-When she called the trash company and spoke to a customer service person, they told her that if someone does not have their bin, they will have to buy another one. If people are going to recycle more, she asked if they could get two bins and they advised-no. Cindy advised her family had actually went out and bought their own. They have a cover and it has a recycling sign on it and it has worked wonderfully, but does not think many households will do that. Would like to meet with the trash companies ahead of time. Until they believe what this group believes, they are not going to do that.

Paula Cornwell-In her mind, when we talk about a feed back. One of the things that we need to say is that we want them to provide a recycling bin. We want certain things, and these are the negotiating powers we would have on those contracts. All those things need to be included when we ask, that is the power. We should have Julie Coon explain the process to us so that we understand.

Meeting Adjourned.

Minutes transcribed by Julie Stasi.

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