

MINUTES
GREEN INITIATIVE CITIZENS TASK FORCE COMMITTEE MEETING
And SUB-COMMITTEES MEETING

MEETING HELD JANUARY 15, 2009
6:00 PM (Committee) and 7:00 PM (Sub-Committees)
Leawood City Hall-Public Works Conference Room
Leawood, Kansas

6:00 PM

Chair Deb Filla called the Green Initiative Citizens Task Force Committee meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Members in attendance:

Deb Filla, Chair; Paula Cornwell, Lisa Cooper, Camille Croteau, David Crupper, Alicia Jennings; Carolyn O'Malley, Bob Pierson; Cindy Thesing,

Members absent:

James Azeltine, Kevin Jeffries,

Guests:

Jim Twigg, Environmental Projects Coordinator City of Overland Park, Carole Lechevin, Abby Cornwell

Staff in attendance:

George Ertle, Karen Rust, Julie Stasi

TOPIC: Approve Committee Agenda.

Paula Cornwell made a Motion to approve the meeting agenda as outlined by Chair Filla.

Cindy Thesing seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

TOPIC: Approve past meeting minutes.

Bob Pierson made a Motion to approve the minutes from December 10, 2008.

Cindy Thesing seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

TOPIC: E-Waste Shred it Day.

Chair Filla asked Committee Member Crupper and Staff Member Ertle to advise the group of the E-Waste, April 25th event.

George and David introduced Jim Twigg to the Committee Members. Jim Twigg works for the City of Overland Park. Overland Park is planning an e-waste event with Surplus Exchange on the Saturday after Earth Day and they would like to co-sponsor with our committee.

Jim Twigg said hello to the group and advised that he is the Environmental Projects Coordinator and has worked for Overland Park for about twenty (20) years. Back in 1991, it was the first time Mr. Twigg had been involved with the City of Leawood. At that time, OP and Leawood partnered up at that time and did one of the first household hazardous waste collections in the County. It was a huge success for both the cities and he worked with the assistant City

Manager for a time and did a few other smaller projects and is really excited about the possibility of working with Leawood again on an electronics recycling program.

Overland Park has done eight (8) electronic recycling events to date. They started with the first one back in 2004. They received grant money from the State of Kansas and received \$6700 .00 to do an electronic collections event. Actually, it turned out that they did the event and they had not spent all the money, so they did another one and he still had not spent all the money. So OP had three (3) events using the grant funds. Since then, he has conducted five (5) others. Mr. Twigg said he has learned a lot along the way. A copy was handed out of a rough draft of what all an event entails and the mechanics of the event.

Mr. Twigg advised that when the first event was done, it was in a parking garage of the Overland Park Convention Center. They were just taking stuff out of cars and started off putting the items on pallets. Then they got busy, so they just started stacking them on the ground. It turns out that if you do that, you end up never getting anything on the pallets and you end up with huge piles of these items that you have to go thru later and take care of. They finished the event at 2PM and he was still there at 8PM that night sifting through everything. They ended up having to come back the next day.

Mr. Twigg has learned enough since then that now we finish an event at 2PM and we are completely off site at 2:45 PM the same day. He has learned a lot about conducting these events and it has changed a lot from the first time they had one.

The City has become efficient enough at doing these events. One of the things they do is to collect money from participants (typically \$10 for a computer monitor, \$10 and up to \$25 for televisions). The other thing they collect money for are large commercial sized printers and copiers. A computer, CPU's, keyboards, scanners, small personal shredders (which is the majority of what is collected) is all free. They will collect about \$7,000 to \$10,000 per event from the participants. The City spends typically \$1500 for the tent as well as feeding and caring for the volunteers and then the City's net cost for the entire event is about \$1,500.00. It is a very cost effective event.

For the recycling itself, the charges we levy on the participant and it pays for the recycling. Surplus Exchange charges, but they get the money up front. We collect the money and then we give them the money from the day of the event that is collected and that typically offsets all the costs of the recycling. All that we are left with is the cost of the tent and the food. Or whatever else we have for the volunteers. It is a minimal cost for an event of that size.

The event is from 8 AM to 2PM. Typically we see and guessing after the digital TV conversion, after Earth Day, most likely the weather will be nice, we'll see probably between 500 and 700 vehicles.

Overland Park has a City Newsletter and they advertise in that. The City's Web Site, Surplus Exchange Advertises and the Sun Publications and possibly a

mention in the Kansas City Star. The event is open to anyone. It is too time consuming to check residency. Since our costs are fixed, basically the tent and the food, there is not much sense in limiting and putting the volunteers thru a potential conflict. This one is also a shredding event as well. Mr. Twigg has worked out this part already with a shredding company who will be on site and he has a volunteer group to staff the shredding part of it.

The event planned now will be in the parking lot of Shawnee Mission South High School, 5800 West 107th, Overland Park, KS, 66207. (The school is on 107th between Lamar and Nall).

The group discussed whether they wanted to join Overland Park on this event or take on one by themselves as previously planned. The Committee was excited to be able to do this with Overland Park and see how it works. It is so complex and there is obviously a big learning curve on this type of project.

Chair Filla advised she had a few announcements to make.

- Staff support for the Green Committee is going to change over to the Parks Department. Chris Claxton has expressed an interest for Parks and Rec to be the liaison for the committee. Most and many of the events are more Parks & Recreation orientated than Public Works. Marica Putman has been asked to start taking care of the minutes. However we will have continued support from Julie Stasi and Karen Rust when Marica is not available and that will help staff.
- At the Goal Session with the Council last week, which is held every year, Chair Filla advised that everyone agreed to extend the Green Committee for a second year. Also, they put on the list to evaluate our pedestrian and bicycle friendliness. Two other council members brought up sustainability and being green. So it was nice to hear unsolicited input about us doing great things and keeping on with that they want to see us do more

TOPIC: E-Waste continued.

Jim Twigg drew a map of the parking lot at Shawnee Mission South and spoke about details of the layout of the e-waste event. Jim advised the event needs 75 to 80 volunteers. Most volunteers will work a 4 hour shift. Examples were 7:30 AM to 11 AM and then 11 AM to 3 PM, etc. Most people do not stay very long that are dropping off shred it items. There is a tent that is about 40' x 100' is size where all the recycling operations go on. Semi trailers are provided by Surplus Exchange usually. Deffenbaugh has donated trailers in the past. Jim Twigg's responsibility is to make sure everything goes well with the volunteers.

Jim advised the process of a participant arriving and volunteers meet them. They look at what they have and collect money for the monitors, televisions. The items they collect money for, they mark them with a red grease pencil with an "X" to show that they have paid (that way the volunteer doesn't have to handle any paperwork). Method of payment is cash or checks, no credit card machines are available.

Volunteers unload all the items and the items are sorted into different stacks onto the pallets (computers, CPU's, monitors, televisions, other electronics and printers). Another box is for small items like keyboards, mice, misc pieces. The

pallets are filled up then they are wrapped in plastic and then we get a skid loader to load them onto the trucks. If Leawood wanted to help with a skid loader as well, that would also help. OP uses their Parks Dept currently to provide that.

Jim Twigg was asked about the volunteers. The age limit typically is from Middle School age and on up. Some younger children have helped in the past with breaking down boxes or something small that they could carry. We have to know who is volunteering and we like to know who is on site. They have a staff person coordinate the volunteers for the event. That information is also placed on a flyer. Even the thought of getting a football team or some young muscular guys would help with the TV's as those can be quite heavy to unload and move around. Jim also advised they had promised the school they would be off the parking lot by 5PM that night. The school is having a play that evening and needs the lot.

Chair Filla and the Committee talked about going in to pay for half or part of the costs. Jim Twigg said that Overland park is so much bigger than Leawood; it wouldn't be fair to split the costs in half. We could work out some sort of number that would be agreeable to both.

Chair Filla suggested we help find volunteers and possibly pay for the refreshments for the volunteers. A ballpark figure of \$500 was suggested by the Committee.

Paula Cornwell made a motion to join Overland Park in their e-waste/shred it recycle day on April 25th, 2009. Leawood to provide, as many volunteers as they can find, publicity and a portion of the cost estimated to be around \$500.00.

Alicia Jennings seconds the motion. All members were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

TOPIC: UPDATES

- Paula Cornwell updated the group on how the Essay Contest was going. Not a great response. So far, we have confirmation from Church of the Nativity Seventh Grade Class will be participating. Prairie Star Middle School a few of the English teachers are working on it but no confirmation from them. Leawood Middle School was not interested. Also there has not been any word from Cure of Ars or a few other schools. St Michaels has asked for the information again, but not confirmed. The group will try to make some phone calls to see if there is any interest.
- Julie Stasi had an update on the Parks Department recycling. Brian Anderson had advised that the parks crews are working on the containers. Parks has ordered the cans, and has selected the green paint color. Staff will be painting them this winter. They will order the lids and create the Leawood Recycles logo "Growing Green Together" to place on the can. The Parks Department is slow in the winter and plans to have the recycle cans in place and ready when the outdoor season begins. Chris Claxton had advised Julie this will be in March when soccer starts.

- Future Meetings. First Thursday in the month. The next meeting will be scheduled for Thursday, February 5th at 7:30 AM.
- The meeting adjourned at 6:58PM. Some of the Green Task Force Committee Members went to attend the Sub-Committees meeting which began at 7PM in the Council Chambers.

**7:00 PM GREEN INITIATIVE CITIZENS TASK FORCE
SUB-COMMITTEES MEETING**

HELD JANUARY 15, 2009

7:00 PM

Leawood City Hall-Council Chambers

Leawood, Kansas

Chair Deb Filla welcomed residents to City Hall who had signed up to be involved in the Sub-Committees of the Green Task Force.

Representatives were on hand from Deffenbaugh Industries (James Steele) and Town & Country Disposal (JR) who brought in samples of new trash containers and recycle containers that are beginning to make their way into the different communities.

Sub-Committee Members asked general questions of both of the trash representatives.

One of the main concerns was for trash haulers to provide three avenues of waste debris pick up: trash, recycled material and yard waste. Both providers said it was very important for cities to create an enforcement ordinance regarding their method of trash pick ups.

After hearing information from the two was companies, the Sub-Committees broke into their separate groups for their individual work session/discussions.

The Education Sub-Committee had requested a flyer be made to distribute to the homes associations and grocery stores and schools. The flyer is for basic recycling education, explaining what items can and cannot be recycled (depending on the individual trash company provider). Staff had given a draft of a brochure to the group for their review. Staff advised that if the group kept the brochure to a black and white with no color and on an 11 x 14 sized piece of paper, that the expense of creating the flyer would be pretty minimal. Currently, staff has quite a lot of legal sized paper in stock (that is not being used now that most of our files are 1 ½ x 11 sized and on computer) and we have copy machines that can print the brochures. It will be less costly if we do not have to go to a printer, etc.

There were approximately 21 people attending the Sub-Committee Meeting.

The meeting adjourned around 8:30PM