

MINUTES OF THE GREEN INITIATIVE CITIZENS TASK FORCE

GREEN INITIATIVE CITIZENS TASK FORCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD JUNE 4, 2009

7:30 am • Leawood City Hall • 4800 Town Center Drive; Leawood, KS • Main Conference Room

Members in Attendance:

Debra Filla, Chair; Camille Croteau, and Alicia Jennings.

Members Absent:

Julie Cain, Vice-Chair, Paula Cornwell, David Crupper, Carolyn O'Malley, Cindy Thesing, and Bob Pierson.

Staff Present:

Chris Claxton, Brian Anderson, and Marica Putman.

Guests:

Jim Twigg, Environmental Projects Coordinator, City of Overland Park

We do not have a quorum. Meeting Agenda and Past Minutes were not approved. Meeting started at 7:50 am.

Topic: Bike Issues

Alicia Jennings called Bikes Belong and Bicycle League. They will send pamphlets and 20 magazine issues. They should be here Monday and will be brought to Chris Claxton for the packets.

Chair Filla suggested that Chris Claxton break up the presentation, so that Alicia Jennings can talk about other communities and Brian Anderson can talk about the application process, thus giving it a committee presentation rather than an individual one.

FYI: Bicycle Friendly Community: 5 E's

(http://www.bikeleague.org/programs/bicyclefriendlyamerica/communities/bfc_five-Es.php)

Engineering: What has been built to promote cycling in the community.

Education: Designed to determine the amount of education there is available for both cyclists and motorists.

Encouragement: How the community promotes and encourages bicycling.

Enforcement: Measuring the connections between the cycling and law enforcement communities.

Evaluation & Planning: What systems are in place to evaluate current programs and plans for the future.

Chair Filla suggested to Brian Anderson to expand the section on the 5 E's with bulleted lists of what Leawood has done. Like under Engineering, we did investigate the possibility of 143rd Street and the plan that came up.

Chris Claxton suggested that references can be brought along with the slide at that time. If there are things that have not been done you could bring them out as thought initiatives. Chair Filla explained that she wanted to give the council the ideas we have and not starting at dead zero. Like our bicycle rodeos, safe walk to school, etc.

Chris Claxton mentioned that Parks and Recreation sells bicycle helmets as a service for people and that they don't make a profit on it. They sell a lot of them.

Chair Filla believes that we should give credit to what has been done.

Brian Anderson receives questions about bike single tracks and paved trails. Our trails connect to various cities. The Law Enforcements use bikes and are on patrol and they are interested.

Alicia Jennings mentions that the police on bikes are extremely helpful. Chris Claxton suggested that they come on Monday as they are good for the program and they come to various bicycle conferences.

Camille Croteau gave a personal story of being caught in the rain storm on her bike and how the police wanted to help her to arrive safely at her house.

Alicia Jennings spoke of a program called Bike for Breakfast

The group brainstormed about various discounts, encourage promoting bike riding, and group riding. Elite Bikes is coming to Leawood near Blanc Burgers and can be directly connected to our trails. Elite Bikes has an opportunity and we can encourage him to set up possible bike rentals for those who are out town, etc. Leawood Cycles have participated in many of our events and has been very supportive in the community.

The group discussed the Master plan to encourage Pedestrian/Bike markings similar to that of Prairie Village, on the streets. Encourage Public Works to paint for a bike lane.

Chris Claxton mentions the time line of August 7th is the application deadline. She suggested an internal deadline date to give the group direction. The group can submit a first draft with the help of BFC.

Brian Anderson suggested a Bikeway Plan from Planning, whether it is agreed upon or not, to look at and evaluate it. New stuff comes before the Planning Commission, and they would like the requirement comments like where the bike rakes are, etc.

Chair Filla asked Brian Anderson to put that down as another idea and that green mobility will be a part of the planning commission check list, including bike rakes, pedestrian crossings, and signage. Incorporate those in the Planning Commission process.

Chris Claxton mentioned that this is a huge factor. She brought up the missed opportunities of green space twenty years ago with the developers.

Topic: Hazardous Waste

Camille Croteau mentioned that the meeting between Jim Twigg and Betsy Livingston did not occur.

Topic: Time Line of Events

Chair Filla draws this time line to help see the events' time line. Group discusses various events for the time line.

	<u>Spring</u>	<u>Summer</u>	<u>Fall</u>
Recycle	Earth Day	Circulation Day	Hazardous
	E-Waste	Large Item Pick Up (June)	
Education (Schools)	Essay (7 th Grade) Recycling Curriculum		Coloring Sheets/Bags (elementary) Photo Gallery, possibly at the Library
Conservation (Water)	Stream Teams (early) Curriculum (Leslie Alford)		
	Rain Gardens/Rain Barrels		
Green Mobility	Bike Rodeo	Bike Event TBD Scavenger – Hunt for Kids	Safe Walk to School (late October) Bike to School Virtual Bus

Topic: E-Waste and Shredding Event with Jim Twigg

Chair Filla and group welcome Jim Twigg.

Jim Twigg emphasizes the busy day and that all were served who stayed in line. It was the largest event in the metro area so far and 120,000 lbs was collected. When you're are that busy then the wait time goes up.

Alicia Jennings asked whether they should have had two lines with cars. Jim Twigg answers that if it was run down both side, there is no way to remove the materials out from under the tent. Thinking about using two narrower tents, space them apart and have an alley way between the two tents. He is considering to talking to someone from Church of The Resurrection. They have a huge parking lots and roadway that can be

used and less likely to be busy on Saturday. He has a contact number and possibly doing another event around November 7 or the 14th (near America Recycles Day).

Alicia Jennings asked if all the items collected are recycled. Jim Twigg answers that he is very concerned about this issue. He doesn't want our recycled items showing up in China under Investigative Reports. He was told, "Don't do anything that you don't want to read about on the front cover of the Kansas City Star". He is very particular and has own personal criteria. Whoever is his contractor would have to be recognized by BAN (Basel Action Network – an organization that works to prevent toxic chemical crisis). They audit the contractor to ensure proper disposal methods, etc.

Alicia Jennings questioned why the shredders left early. Jim Twigg explained that their services were donated and he is considering not involving them in the next E-Waste event as it makes people unhappy when they don't stay for the entire time.

Alicia Jennings asked who donated the food. Jim Twigg answers that Pizza Fusion donated the pizzas and they had purchased the rest of the food. His head volunteer Verna Crane does the purchasing of food and it cost was \$234.00.

Chair Filla felt that the volunteers needed to be trained in what to do as there were some confusion in how to do what they were asked to do. Perhaps a try run. Jim Twigg is considering producing several videos on the web to show volunteers what we what to do. His fireman would help him on this endeavor. Chair Filla suggested Shawnee Mission school students for a class project for film majors and they could put it on their resume, etc.

Alicia Jennings asked about those people who walked in with items. Jim Twigg mentioned that he didn't like it. It's disruptive; they often don't pay, and it messes up the flow. Also, if they did this at the Church of Resurrection, we could get more volunteers.

Chris Claxton mentioned that Julie Cain has a great connection with Shawnee Mission Schools and students who need volunteer hours.

Alicia Jennings spoke up and said she had tried that too but did not receive any responses. Jim Twigg mentions that the kids often wait the very last minute to volunteer.

Chair Filla mentioned that maybe volunteering 2 hour shifts, especially on heavy lifting. Perhaps heavy duty clean up crew shift to help after the event. Jim Twigg mentioned that it varies with the event because some will stay later and help out. Leawood Public Works crew was great; they stuck around and helped out. They discussed having those who only lift, stack, and wrap.

Alicia Jennings asked about the total cost. Jim Twigg answers that the full cost for the food and tent was \$1,500.

The group continues to speak about personal experiences with the E-Waste event. Also, how to move them forward faster and use of walkie talkies.

Chris Claxton introduces herself to Jim Twiggs and informs him that if he could get a date set for the event we could promote by advertising it in the Fall Program Guide. We did that with the last one. Our guide comes out in August. We also did the fliers to the schools a week ahead too, hopefully that is part of the success.

She also mentioned the one event done in Lee's Summit and they had one at the high school on June 9th. It was very busy. Their line was very long and solid for two hours. Jim Twigg said that this event was solid too. There was a line before they were even open and stayed that way until it closed. Actually it was past the designated time to end.

The group continues to speak of various recycle techniques, roll off dumpsters, and the upcoming paint drop off at Freaky Fall Fest. The group thanks Jim Twigg for his involvement, advice, and help.

The meeting adjourns.

Next meeting is July 2, 7:30 am.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:00 am.

Minutes transcribed by Marica Putman, Administrative Graphics Technician, Parks & Recreation
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