

MINUTES OF THE GREEN INITIATIVE CITIZENS TASK FORCE

GREEN INITIATIVE CITIZENS TASK FORCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 3, 2009

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

Members in Attendance:

Debra Filla, Chair; Julie Cain, Vice-Chair; Paula Cornwell (via phone), Paul Duffendack, and Bob Pierson.

Members and Staff Absent:

Camille Croteau, Kevin Jeffries, Alicia Jennings, Carolyn O'Malley, and Cindy Thesing.

Staff Present:

Brian Anderson, Chris Claxton, and Marica Putman.

Guests:

None.

The Green Initiative Citizens Task Force Committee meeting came to order at 7:30 am.

Topic: Approval of the Agenda

A verbal agenda to finalize the timeline and receive updates.

Bob Pierson made a motion to approve the agenda.

Paul Duffendack seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Topic: Approval of Past Meeting Minutes

Minutes were not ready for approval.

Topic: Updates – Paula Cornwell

Paula Cornwell announced that Mayor Dunn has approved the plans for the 5th graders art project and the 7th graders essay contest. The letters will be sent out this week and will do follow ups with the principal and schools.

Chair Filla clarified that the 5th grade art project is in the fall and the 7th grade recycling essay contest in the spring (science teachers).

Photo gallery project will be planned and assigned a focal person in a future meeting.

Topic: Updates – Carolyn O’Malley

Chair Filla announced that Carolyn O’Malley has resigned. She is currently taking care of her aging mother and another relative. There are two openings on the committee (Julie Cain and Louis Rasmussen’s wards).

Topic: Updates – Timeline Review (updated during meeting - 9/3/09)

	<u>Spring</u>	<u>Summer</u>	<u>Fall</u>	<u>Winter</u>
Recycle	Earth Day E-Waste	Large Item Pick Up (June)	Hazardous Waste Shredding	February (HOA Mtg.)
Education (Schools)	Essay (7 th Grade) Recycling Curriculum (English & Science)	Green Mobility and Bikes	Kids Art (5 th Grade, elementary)	High School or All Photo Gallery, possibly at the Library Multi-group Workshop
Conservation (Water)	Stream Teams Curriculum – Early Spring (Leslie Alford) Rain Gardens	Rain Barrels Artwork Nature Center Classes		Trees – Street Trees Sound Barriers
Green Mobility	Bike Rodeo	Bike Event TBD Scavenger – Hunt for Kids	Safe Walk to School (late October) Bike to School Virtual Bus	Donate Your Bike Program

Chair Filla reviews the timeline with the committee. For conservation, stream teams are done early in the spring to avoid mosquitoes.

Brian Anderson met with Leslie Alford about rain gardens and they are working on getting a larger rain garden on 119th Street. The spot is just south of Tomahawk Park, always holds a decent amount of water and would be a perfect spot for a rain garden. Chair Filla shared that the rain garden class at the nature center was full with 25 people.

Discussed the desire to work along with the Stormwater Management Council (Stormwater Education) to provide synergy on projects.

Topic: Updates – Brian Anderson – Bike Friendly Status

Brian Anderson has not heard from the League of American Cyclists. They made contact with the owner of Leawood Cyclists – bike riding events, etc. He has not heard back. They will get direction on what we need to do if we don't get an award and what they are looking for.

He went on a trip to Columbia with Mid-America Regional Council. Columbia is a silver medalist city. They have a lot of bicycle facilities. They are a pilot city, 1 of 4 who received 22 million (5 years to spend it) to be used for education (bike skills classes), marketing, programs, engineering, bike lanes, and looking at a bicycle boulevard concept where the bicyclists are in the primary lanes and the cars are on the side. Lane striping does not have to be 5 feet wide (ideal). The requirements are up to the city, engineering, and bike committee. Other concepts include loaning out bike rakes (during festivals) and more. Maps are passed out to look at. "Sharros" are lane markers for bikes. They have an "errand bike program" which loans out bikes to businesses to see if they would like to ride a bike instead of cars. They have implemented the safe bikes to school program. They do this only to school and not after. There are too many variables to contend with after school. It's going very well. A brief discussion follows.

Chair Filla asks if they have a healthy environment initiative. Brian Anderson clarified that this part of their education, encouraging people to ride their bicycles and walking. They benefited from this from their marketing dollars. A brief discussion follows and the procedure to create the ad hoc bicycle advisory committee for one year to parks and recreation. He has also looked at Shawnee (Parks & Rec) meeting 4 times a year and Lawrence (Planning and Development) with 5 or 7 citizen members and planning, fire, police for coordinating events).

Topic: Updates – Timelines and Events

Chair Filla asks the group their thoughts on the timeline and events. Paul Duffendack suggests bringing in all the environmental groups together to do a winter program or workshop for adults. Chair Filla suggests tying it with the photo gallery. (Multi-group Workshop added to the Education category during winter).

Topic: Updates – E-Waste

Paul Duffendack spoke with Sgt. Mark Hackathorn, Traffic Officer. He modified the traffic flow and officers are not needed for traffic control. Chair Filla felt that the biggest gap was not having someone in charge for volunteers. Paul still requires help with PR, volunteer help, and signage.

Brian Anderson is assisting Paul Duffendack on signage and organization. There is a brief conversation between the two of what is needed. Julie Cain suggested cheap special signs that she can get if needed. Banners are discussed too.

Chair Filla asked about the volunteers. Paul Duffendack feels its time to request more volunteers. Chair Filla suggested assigning a keeper of the list of names, jobs, and timeslots of the volunteers. She has called Loren Halifax and she will announce it too. Bob Pierson suggested a monetary sign to announce the item charges. A flier that explains what happens to the items being donated.

Topic: Updates – Timelines and Events Revisited

Marica Putman suggested a winter program for green mobility. Have a “Donate your Bike Day” or donate bikes here. Have an event to where people get coupons for donating old bikes and receive 20% off a new one. “Bucks for Bikes”. Fire guys fix and repairs bikes and in the spring the Police does the bike rodeo and bikes be available to kids who can’t afford one or lend to errand program for businesses or provide bikes for people here at work who want to get some exercise in at lunchtime. Brian Anderson replied that Columbia had a program like that and had bike mechanics who wanted to work on bikes to repair them and then they had a give away day. Details still needed to be worked out. Do you want this to be a one time event or an on-going program? A bicycle stimulus program will lend to a silver medal program. It is added as a possibility.

Chair Filla mentioned that Lenexa had an art contest for rain barrels. Everybody was vying for the best artwork done on a rain barrel and they were auctioned off with the money used as a fundraiser. Consideration of this as a project.

Chair Filla announced a Hazardous Waste collection event from Johnson County announced by Gardner on October 10. Two locations and what is accepted.

Topic: Updates – Deffenbaugh and Town & Country

Bob Pierson announced a possible tour of the recycling and landfill facilities. It will be September 18 at 9:00 am. Need to know how many will attend and a letter sent out. September 25, Harrisonville for Town & Country.

Brian Anderson to assist Bob Pierson for staff liaison and transportation means.

Bob Pierson has questions on large item pickups, especially the cost. Chair Filla explained that if he spoke with J R who already has a large item pickup budgeted in the contract. Need to ask how much extra it would be to do this a one time rather than spread out during the year. The whole point is that on Circulation day is that you hope someone will pick up your item and it won’t be there on Monday morning. Details need to be worked out. A brief discussion follows.

The group discussed the Johnson County Hazardous Waste flier. Chris Claxton mentioned an email from a woman who complained that she didn’t have a place to take in Leawood all her recyclables. She explained that the committee has made great accomplishments in a short amount of time. She suggested that she check with her HOA

and neighbors. And she was given information about ripple glass recycling. A brief discussion follows about ripple glass and recycling containers.

Chair Filla suggested these as handouts for the E-waste day, we used the Johnson County Hazardous Waste, Surplus Exchange handout for the upcoming e-Waste event Nov. 14th at Church of the Resurrection, and the City's recycling flier.

Chris Claxton is looking at magnets for Freaky Fall Fest. It is suggested that we hand out magnets, e-waste, recycling, and the hazardous waste fliers.

The meeting adjourns.

Next meeting is October 1, 7:30 am.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:00 am.

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