

MINUTES | April 11, 2013

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

Members Present: Debra Filla, Julie Cain, Martha Conradt, Mike Gillaspie, Alicia Jennings, Gareth Matthews, Scott Pashia, Bob Pierson, Mike Schaadt

Staff Present: Chris Claxton, Marica Putman

Members Absent: Chris Schultz

Guests: Joe Johnson, Public Works Director

MEMBERS

Debra Filla, Chair
Julie Cain, Vice-Chair
Martha Conradt
Mike Gillaspie
Alicia Jennings
Gareth Matthews
Scott Pashia
Bob Pierson
Mike Schaadt
Chris Schultz

Scott Lambers,
City Administrator

Kevin Jeffries,
Pres. & CEO Leawood
Chamber of Commerce

Chris Claxton,
Director of Parks
& Recreation

Brian Anderson,
Parks Superintendent

Marica Putman,
Adm. Graphics Tech

✚ Welcome & Introductions

- The SAB meeting came to order at 7:35 am.

✚ Approval of today's meeting agenda.

- Scott Pashia made a motion to approve the agenda. Vice-Chair Cain seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

✚ Approval of the past meeting minutes.

- Vice-Chair Cain made a motion to approve the February 14th minutes. Scott Pashia seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The minutes were amended. Alicia Jennings made a motion to approve the amended February 14th minutes. Martha Conradt seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

✚ Conservation – Water

Johnson County BMP Program/Rain Barrels/Rain Gardens

- Johnson County Stormwater has a \$10,000 program to give out grants to cities to help them promote Best Management Practices for water processes. This included matching funds for rain barrels. Forms are located at <http://www.leawood.org/homes/rainbarrels.aspx>.
- Joe Johnson provided the background information of what the Johnson County BMP stormwater program is and what is being recommended for approval by the Stormwater committee. See attached for presentation to be made to City Council.
 - 2013 Cost Share Program. Annual basis is \$200,000 (for 20 participating cities, \$10,000 each).
 - Last year was the first time that this program was put into the SMAC budget. There are currently 5-6 participating cities.
 - The program can be used for: rain gardens, rain barrels, pervious surfaces, and other deities that have a water quality basis for it. It cannot be spent if you are developing a project and you are required to put in BMPs as part of the city's ordinance. If the city is part of the program, they can make an application to the city for partial funding for the improvement. The city pays the property owners upfront and the county reimburses the city. The reimbursement to the property owner is 50% of the cost of the BMP up to a maximum of \$1,000. For rain barrels, it is capped at \$75. Funding applications must be submitted by February 1st. The county is still accepting applications for 2013. If the council approves it Monday night, we will submit our application for consideration and approval. It is early enough that the application should be approved. Overland Park and Olathe are very similar in what they have done. Leawood would follow suit in how it was advertised on the website.

ACTION ITEMS

- ✓ **Everyone**
 - Ask your schools how the SAB can help support green efforts in their school.
- ✓ **Scott**
 - Confirm Brookwood's participation in bike/walk to school day.
- ✓ **Bob**
 - To get last stats of the Recycling Extravaganza event.
- ✓ **Chair Filla**
 - Send out an email, that can forward, about service opportunities for the Stream Team and Recycling Extravaganza.
- ✓ **Martha**
 - Create a possible press release on the BMP program.
 - Create and send out a Master Calendar.
 - Pull together data and draft cover note about upcoming events for e-mail to HOAs
 - Submit photos to earthday.org
 - Be central organizer for May walk/bike to school event.
- ✓ **Marica**
 - Send Gareth an updated HOA list and send out the Large Item Recirculation, Tomahawk Creek Cleanup, Arbor Day fliers.

- Chair Filla speaks about the rain garden projects possibility with schools. She also speaks of Brook Beatty Park. Johnson County funded up to \$400 for rain garden plants through Blue River Watershed Association. We teamed up Leawood and Leawood Estates and the city received their portion for Brook Beatty. Members ask Joe Johnson questions as he presents info on the screen and they continue their discussion on the rain barrels.
- Green Street Pilots. David Dowel is the architect. Considering having him under contract so that he can come up with a preliminary design to show what it would potentially look like. They are considering Waterford or Wilshire Homes Association (along 132nd St., pool and tennis court areas). Members discuss pilot locations and green space growth.

• **Gareth Matthews made a motion to approve applying for the JoCo Stormwater BMP Program. The motion was seconded by Mike Gillaspie. The motion passed unanimously.**

- Chair Filla attended a recent MARC workshop on Native Landscaping Ordinances. Both Chesterfield and Minneapolis representatives were there to share their experience and updated ordinances.
- Brook Beatty's rain garden will be expanded and additional landscaping as part of the park improvements. To date a flowering tree has been planted.

Stream Teams – Mike Schaadt

- Mike Schaadt spoke with Jennifer Hassler who gave him a bit of background of the team. He was thinking in terms of awareness of water quality. Jennifer Hassler will contact Kate Delehunt to provide biochemistry testing and learning. She has provided many contacts. He would like to hear from the committee which direction we would like to go. His company has been commissioned to design the University of Oklahoma's Water Innovation Research lab which is a primary research science climate initiative. Scott Pashia and Vice-Chair Cain shared their information of other interest groups such as the scouts and high school programs. HOAs can contact these groups for community projects. For instance our park clean up day has been postponed due to the weather.
- Chair Filla asked the members if they would like to switch this year from essays to rain gardens/water conservation project with the schools. Again, participation is low and there is consensus that the schools may be ahead of us in terms of green projects. Brookwood and Corinth schools are very ahead of us. This topic will be reviewed further. Members briefly discuss these issues:
 - Explanation of our events and outreach programs.
 - Art & Essays are specific to a grade and not throughout the school and establishing a school club structure. Other options include giving mini grants to school clubs to get them started and having these clubs establish their own school essay or art contests.
 - Another option is to do an essay and an optional project for the school.
 - There is an interest in participating despite scheduling conflicts.
 - There is much agreement that the student recognitions return to the city council meetings rather than the HOA meeting.
 - Monetary awards.
- Chair Filla shared the structure of the True Blue Program, a weeklong training taught in the schools by Kate Delehunt. The grant that was received was to take that training and condense it in order to provide Saturday training classes for adults. Anyone is welcome to take up this challenge to make the True Blue training program part of a long term curriculum at Blue Valley North and Shawnee Mission East. Members discuss this challenge briefly.

Green Mobility Update – Brian Anderson, Alicia Jennings Complete Streets Policy – Updates on RFQs

- City Council did approve the Complete Streets Proposal for consultants. Five consultant proposals applied and will be reviewed next Wednesday, April 17th.

Trail at 123rd & Mission Road – Alicia Jennings

- The repairs at this trail have been approved.

Walk/Bike to School – Martha Conradt

- Cure is not participating. Nativity, Brookwood, and Leawood Elementary are not confirmed. Saint Michaels and Mission Trails will participate.
- Chair Filla suggests a conference call with the schools at 2 pm next Wednesday, April 17th to discuss the Bike/Walk to School and interest in the Walking School Bus. She will arrange a call in number for the meeting.
- Brian Anderson has been requested to be the liaison to the police force and provide a deadline of participating schools. Discussed issues experienced at the last Walk/Bike to School event.
- Bicycle Friendly Committee will participate in Sprint's Earth Day.

Recycling – Bob Pierson

Recycling Extravaganza – April 27th

- Paul Duffendack resigns due to health concerns. Bob Pierson accepts the ownership of the recycling extravaganza and will follow up with Jim Twiggs. Members discuss the last event.

Lakemary's Recycling Program for Electronics

- James Azeltine forwarded this information to us. Bob Pierson passed out a handout for Lakemary's Recycling Program. Lakemary is an organization that helps individuals with special needs find opportunities with businesses. They have a program called Business Solutions that can provide short or long term employment and electronic recycling services. He briefly explains about the organization.
- Chair Filla suggested that he speak with Jim Twiggs and get them involved with the Recycling Extravaganza. This will provide them with PR opportunities and possibly become a vendor.
- Chair Filla suggests that Martha Conradt can give some thought on a press release 'How do we communicate the BMP program?' if it is approved on Monday for the next meeting. Bob Pierson has passed the handouts to several churches. Many of these churches have environmental departments.
- This topic will be revisited at the next meeting.

Large Item Recirculation Day – I-435 –135th St., June 8th – Bob Pierson

- Bob Pierson confirm date with JR of Town & Country Disposal.
- Gareth Matthews confirms that the HOA information was different in the spreadsheet because is out of date. He is requesting new information from member's HOA contacts so that his information is updated.
- Marica Putman has the most current list and will send Gareth Matthews a copy.
- Gareth Matthews, Marica Putman, and Martha Conradt will get together and send out a cover letter to go out with the flier by the end of the week. Marica Putman will also send out the Tomahawk Creek Cleanup ad for this week's event.

2013 HOA Annual Meeting

HOA Survey

- Members received and discussed the survey results.
- Interest Form cards were captured in as a result of the raffle. The raffle deal was a hit.

Pre-meeting Round Table Discussion for HOAs

- Chair Filla suggested that as a response to answering the HOAs wanting to talk about HOA management practices, that we open the meeting earlier from 5:00 to 5:45 pm for anybody who would like to chair a round table discussion. If Jim Overbray is still the president of his HOA, he will lead a discussion topic. Members agree that is a great response to their needs and allows us to keep focused on what we would like to present. This will let us know quickly if who is interested or not in these discussions.
- Gareth Matthews pointed out that we should put out a two sentence education about who is sponsoring it and what that means. To make sure that the title reflects that the emphasis is things that are relevant to your HOA but the topic is sustainability in Leawood. This could help lessen the confusion of what is expected out of the meeting.

- Mike Schaad shared an interesting observation. When he served on the City Council in Merriam, there was inner ring suburb where the HOAs had disintegrated from the time it was initially constructed back in the 1950s. They once had strong HOAs like Leawood has now. Over the decade, they have basically withered away for a variety of reasons. The whole concept to him is that HOAs inherently are the most sustainable thing in managing long term sustainability of a city. He feels that HOAs are the center of sustainability as they do their community work to sustain their neighborhoods. Others agree. Those disintegrated HOAs lost their ability to communicate as they lost their cohesiveness. Promoting and making them aware that we appreciate what they are doing is very important. Historic preservation is not so prevalent here due to the newness of housing; however, preservation of housing stock and long term preservation of property is ultimately very sustainable. Members discuss these points. Vice-Chair Cain feels that this idea should be the opening question for the round open table discussions.
- Chair Filla likes this. "HOAs: The key to sustainability and the viability to our city." and to re-emphasize that because the HOAs provide the foundation for sustainability that is why we focus on the HOAs and hold the annual meeting.

Other

- Reminder that we still have an open position.
- Received a request to send for Earth Day Network for pictures of what we are doing. Their focus is on global warming - negatively. Members discuss various submissions and what can be presented with Leawood's name tag tied to it. They have decided to send walk/bike, walking school bus, and rain garden pictures. They wanted to do a positive spin on it.
- The master calendar is deferred to the next meeting. Martha Conradt will send it out ahead of time, similar to what she does for boy scouts. She will be the Eagle Scout Coordinator for Troop 395 next year.
- Scott Pashia will send out an email about City Camp KC on April 20th. It is all day workshop and about how to improve our community and why kids should learn how to code.
- Chris Claxton mentions that on April 26th at noon in the City Park, Brian Anderson and Dustin Branick are doing an Arbor Day Celebration event. They are planting a big tree, small trees, and seedlings elsewhere. They will have refreshments. This will also go out with the other fliers.

Adjourn

- Meeting adjourns at 9:00 am. Next meeting is on May 9th, 2013.
- Upcoming meeting: June 13th. No Meetings in March, August, and December.