

Sustainability Advisory Board

July 11th, 2019 MINUTES

Welcome, Introductions, and News

- Members greet.

The SAB meeting came to order

- Bill Schutte motioned to approve the amended agenda. Alicia Jennings seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- Mark Ciaramitaro motioned to approve the April 11th minutes. Bill Schutte seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Master Calendar – Meeting Frequency

- There will be 6 meetings all year, plus the summit, and other meetings as necessary. Future meeting dates:
 - 2019: September 12th, November 14th
 - 2020: January 9th, March 12th, April 9th, April 16th, HOA

Discussion – Theme of HOA Summit

- Discussed healthy yards theme.
 - Vegetable gardens
 - Select and maintain various trees, bushes, and flowers
- Chair Sipple and Mark Ciaramitaro met with Dennis Patton about what resources the county extension service has to bring to the summit, which was anything you need! Slides, movies, speakers, and more!
- Vice-Chair Harrison would like it to focus on yards and gardening. Currently, she chairs the tree committee and suggests that trees be the focus for the 2021 HOA.
- Members discuss lawn issues, pesticides, chemicals, and more. Scott Gamerl has materials on pollinators and butterflies that he could provide. Bill Schutte suggests healthy lawns and common areas as the focus. Also discussed that booths that are not representing the theme be eliminated to provide space for other vendors.

HOA Database

- Becky Pendergraft and the Information Services department are managing the database.

Formation of Subcommittees

- Kathy Corbin felt she was not contributing as much as she could and wanted a goal to strive for. She suggested picking important sustainable topics that aren't being addressed currently like banning bags. For example, she and Alicia Jennings would work on their own time, connect with others, and report back to the SAB committee for progress updates. Members suggested initiative, action, teams or interest groups within SAB instead of subcommittees as they discussed it further.

Tree Committee

- The tree committee has a half dozen members, meeting every other month on Thursdays at 4 pm. Their goal is education about the new tree ordinance, getting articles distributed and printed in local publications, distributing flyers and pamphlets to HOA's. They are trying to stop the tree installation near the street and sidewalks as well as better tree choices and varieties. Members discuss a current no grass is growing under a tree issue in Leawood Estates and the tree committee is working on it.

ATTENDEES

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

- Chuck Sipple, Chair**
- Lisa Harrison, Vice-Chair**
- Erin Chacey**
- Mark Ciaramitaro**
- Kathy Corbin**
- Alicia Jennings**
- Bob Pierson**
- Jim Potter**
- Bill Schutte**
- Truss Tyson – via email/phone if needed**

- Chris Claxton**
Parks & Recreation Director
- Brian Anderson**
Parks Superintendent
- Marica Putman**
Administrative Graphics Tech
- Scott Gamerl**
Outdoor Education Supervisor
- Kevin Jeffries**
President and CEO
Leawood Chamber of Commerce

Guest

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Bike/Walk Leawood – Brian Anderson

e-Bikes on Trails - Update

- e-Bikes on trails. Brian Anderson is working with other parks and recreation agencies in the Kansas City region because jurisdictions vary on whether e-bikes are permitted on the trails or not. Our trail systems are being linked together, so it makes sense to harmonize permitted conveyances. People often don't know they have passed over into another city limits when using the trail systems. He has been briefing the BWL committee that certain e-bike classes would be allowed.
- Classes of e-Bikes
 - Class 1: e-Bikes that are pedal-assist only, with no throttle, and have a maximum assisted speed of 20 mph.
 - Class 2: e-Bikes that also have a maximum speed of 20 mph but are throttle-assisted.
 - Class 3: e-Bikes that are pedal-assist only, with no throttle, and a maximum assisted speed of 28 mph.
- Several agencies feel that the recreational trails are for recreation and exercise, meaning they only want pedal assisted e-bikes. Class 2 e-bikes are not pedal-assisted so the current trend is to not allow Class 2 e-bikes.
- The Kansas City Metropolitan Parks & Recreation Area Directors Association is finishing a position statement on e-bikes for jurisdictions to use as a support tool when/if they are recommending trail rules changes to permit e-bikes. They hope this position statement will improve uniformity throughout the Kansas City Metro.

South Loop Planning - Update

- Similar to the North Loop in length. Approximately 11 miles. The South Loop was re-routed off of Roe to provide a safer family ride. It would briefly utilize Mission Road, because sidewalks and bicycle lanes are being added. The route would go west of Mission and reconnect back to the original route on residential streets. Gezer Park would still be stop along the South Loop. The recommended re-route was approved by the bike committee.
- Currently Public Works is finishing up the design with the new changes before they can put the project out for bid to hire a contractor to fabricate and install the signs. The Park Department is working with Vireo, a landscape design firm, to design a trail head and bike amenities such as a water bottle filler, misting station, repair station, benches, loop and trail information, etc. at City Park where these loops begin. The South Loop is estimated to go out to bid in October.
- Members of the bike/walk Leawood committee shared at their last meeting that they receive positive feedback about the North Loop. Information Services hired a rider/videographer to capture the North Loop along with a map on the side on the website. Brian Anderson will send out the video. Vice-Chair Harrison suggests using Nextdoor to post the info and video.

Major SAB Initiative – Plastic Bags – Alicia Jennings and Kathy Corbin

- Alicia Jennings researched Breckenridge, Colorado by-laws. It is becoming city wide as well as county wide. There are no plastic bags given. You have to pay a dime for either paper or plastic bags for ice, etc. You cannot ban plastic bags. The word ban is not allowed and is very negative. The grocery stores, hardware, etc. have an annual cloth/fiber bag contest thru the arts council. The dime collected after bag costs is used to fund education. Water bottles are discouraged and there are reminders to 'fill your flask'. Pet waste bags and reusing plastic bags for that purpose were mentioned. Members discuss it further.
- Chair Sipple stated that the committee needs to decide the best way to approach plastic bags and water bottles. Perhaps make it a county wide and join in with Johnson County and/or Marc. He reiterated that we need to work with merchants so that they do not lose customers to Missouri stores. Their task is get with other like-minded people to assist with this project for a successful outcome.

Adjourn

Upcoming Meetings

- **Next SAB meeting is September 12th, 2019.**
- Future meeting dates in 2019: November 14th.
- Partial future meeting dates in 2020: January 9th, March 12th, and April 9th.