

Minutes
Sustainable Environment Advisory Committee (SEAC)
St. Joseph, MO
January 26, 2022 3:30 PM

CITY CLERK
2022 FEB 22 AM 11:37

This was a Zoom meeting set up through the City of St. Joseph.
Zoom connection was available in First Floor conference room, City Hall

Welcome and **Call to order** was shared by Diane Waddell, moderator, with thanks to Dr. Kim Schutte, staff liaison, for setting up the Zoom call.
October 2021 **Minutes** were acknowledged.

Roll call was by check-in. Members present were Dr. Dawn Drake, Jan Storts, and Diane Waddell. Dr. Kim Schutte, Historic Preservation Planner and Colleen Armstrong, Stormwater Quality Coordinator, were City Staff represented.

Statement of purpose in recognition that we are a part of the Mayor's Climate Network

This committee comes from a Resolution which states: *Resolved, That the City of Saint Joseph continue to expand on innovative environmental programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions*

Goals: Rethink, Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Plant and nurture trees and native plants

Decrease single-use plastics

Encourage and support businesses which model environmental sustainability

Decrease greenhouse gas emissions

Seek to reduce pollution of our water resources

Promote sustainable stewardship of historic buildings including adaptive reuse

It was agreed by consensus to change the following two goals by combining them.

From: (1) Seek to improve energy efficiency and reduce energy use and

(2) Decrease greenhouse gas emissions

To: Encourage the City of St. Joseph and all residences, businesses and other organizations to improve energy efficiency to decrease greenhouse gas emissions.

Old Business:

Green Business Team: The Subcommittee includes LuAnn Cadden, Sara Markt, Jan Storts, and Diane Waddell, who meet monthly by zoom. Jan Storts reported on the committee's new brochure which explains the vision of the team to small local businesses as well as contains a brief application form. They continue to work with Dana Massin, president of Downtown Main Street.

Earth Day Awards will be April 22 at 3:30 at the Convention and Visitors Bureau meeting room.

Tree Projects, Prairie Restoration and Native Plantings

- A. Prairie Restoration — Dr. Drake reported on work at the MWSU prairie dedicated to Dr. John Rushin. She said the prairie will have a routine burn in March, which will be contracted out. She is working closely with Biology Department head, Dr. Mark Mills.
- B. Krug Park Native Plantings — The team is connecting with the Friends of Krug Park through the Plant Native subcommittee.
- C. Native Planting Team (Plant Native St. Joe!) The team met per zoom on Ja. 24 and will meet again on Feb. 28.

- Goals: 1. Encourage native plantings in businesses, schools, public areas such as parks, parkway, and home landscapes
2. Educate residents of the many benefits of native plants and trees
- Develop a script related to the benefits to share with groups, etc.
 - Develop a brochure/information to share on social media
 - Develop Markers to be used for education and identification (Pollinator Restoration, etc.)
 - Work toward making St. Joseph a destination for visitors for Native Plantings
 - Include native plants, shrubs, trees and pollinator plants

Ongoing City Partnership Reports

A. Historic Preservation — Dr. Kim Schutte: Reimagining Heritage Neighborhoods — no report

B. Water Protection — Stormwater subcommittee, Colleen Armstrong reported on work of Stormwater Management including MS4 Stormwater Permit work. Her work team also remodeled their greenhouse, which helps house perennial plants for planting in the rain garden and other areas.

Mayors for Clean Energy (Ready for 100 Campaign): GEO Team (Green Energy Opportunity Team)

1. A sub-task force of GEO, the Resolution Committee, will continue to represent GEO. It is important to coordinate through Bryan Carter, City Manager, who has notified Diane that he was bringing the idea of decreasing greenhouse gases to directors of city departments.

Meanwhile, Dr. Drake will be teaching sustainable energy in the biology dept at MWSU. Included in this are energy technology and planning a sustainable future for St. Joseph.

2. A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING PRACTICES BY THE CITY OF ST. JOSEPH AND BY ALL RESIDENTS, BUSINESSES, AND OTHER ORGANIZATION TO REDUCE GREENHOUSE EMISSIONS.

Social Media/Education

Facebook plans 2022

January, February Local green business

New Business and Public Comment

Next meeting: January 26, 3:30 PM per Zoom
Minutes submitted by Diane Waddell