

CITY CLERK
2021 JUN 21 AM 8:17

**Minutes
Sustainable Environment Advisory Committee (SEAC)
St. Joseph, MO
June 16, 2021 3:00 PM**

This was a Zoom meeting set up through the City of St. Joseph.

Diane Waddell, moderator, welcomed members, staff and consultants. Members present were Sara Markt, LuAnn Cadden, Jan Storts, Kyle Beauchamp, and Dr. Dawn Drake, Sean DeWeese, and Diane Waddell. Dr. Kim Schutte, Historic Preservation Planner; Colleen Armstrong, Assistant Environmental Services Supervisor, Water Protection; Carol Flury, Neighborhood Services Coordinator, and Martha Clark, ISA-Certified Arborist and consultant were City staff present. Consultant Jeff Powelson, Private Land Conservationist, MDC attended as volunteer consultant.

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

Old Business:

Green Small Business Emphasis, including Earth Day Awards (transferred back from MWSU)

Diane noted that Sara Markt and LuAnn Cadden will meet with Diane regarding how to best follow up on the Green Business promotion. Contacts will need to be made to assure businesses understand what the guidelines are that SEAC has set. Sara noted that MoKan hosted a well attended meeting on May 27 related to the new Main Street St. Joe project. Diane stated she has emailed Trevor Tutt, who is managing that program, to let him know we would like to work with him on our green business promotion but has not heard back. She has also talked with him on the phone about this as well. She will email Trevor to see when the SEAC Subcommittee can meet with him about this.

Greenway Project.

Kyle Beauchamp reported as follow up from recommendations and questions at the May meeting.

1. For a trial/pilot run, he recommends the following streets to be used, and if all goes well, to be included in the greenway network:
 - [10th to 14th on Mitchell, Mitchell to Penn on 14th, 14th to 17th on Penn, Penn to Lafayette on 17th, 17th to 34th on Lafayette] [24th to 28th (Noyes) on Messanie, [Crescent Drive to State St on Ashland Ave, Ashland Ave to 26th on State St, State to Frederick on 26th, 26th to 25th on Frederick, Frederick to Messanie on 25th]
 - [Messanie to Lafayette on 24th]
 - [Lafayette to Duncan on 26th, 26th to 24th on Duncan, Duncan to Jackson on 24th, 24th to Spratt on Jackson, Jackson to Pacific on Spratt]
2. Portland and some other cities having implemented this type of project and have done it in project phases. First, kind a "skeleton", and then fleshing it out one year at a time with new connectors and branches added to the existing map.
3. He will check with EMS regarding routing, safety concerns, etc.

Tree Projects, Prairie Restoration and Native Plantings

- A. MWSU Prairie dedicated to Dr. John Rushin — Jeff Powelson reported that all is going well.

A pollinator project is in progress and he is working with MDC for tree funding. Dr. Drake added that she is working with her biology department on mapping the area.

B. Krug Park Native Plantings — LuAnn Cadden reported that the native plants in the Circus area are doing well.

C. Mosaic/MDC Prairie — Sean reported that the prairie/pollinator plants plot on the north side of the campus is being mowed.

D. Tree projects/plans — Martha Clark reminded us that the trees planted last fall in cooperation with the Tree Board and Parks Department are Hochman, Seitz, College Hill Parks and Maple Leaf Parkway area. At this point there is no pick-up of trees planned for fall, however, she invited members to be thinking of public lands where trees could be (ordered and) planted next fall. These would be from Forest Re-Leaf.

E. Preservation and Property Maintenance “Reimagining Heritage Neighborhoods” — Carol Flury and Dr. Kim Schutte reported.

Carol noted that she is working with neighbors at the 600 and 700 blocks of South 19 between Messanie and Mary Streets where there is a green space/vacant lot. She would like to work with SEAC and others to plant native flowers. LuAnn Cadden and others do have native plants they can provide when the project gets going this fall.

F. Native Planting Team — Jeff Powelson (LuAnn Cadden, Shelley White, Mary Jo Harris, Kyle Beauchamp, and Diane Waddell)

Diane noted that Chuck Kempf is interested in the possibility of native plants being planted in certain areas along the parkway, realizing that at first they may appear to be uncut tall grass. She will check back with him for availability to meet with the group. Meanwhile, Kyle has contacted SJSD and talked with Dr. Gabe Edgar, who is also interested in planting native plants in some SJSD land. The SEAC Team will plan to meet with the Carol and Kim as well as with Chuck Kempf as soon as possible

Recycling LuAnn Cadden has been busy again working on picking up cans for recycling at Parties on the Parkway and Sounds of Summer. This does take some effort to drain the cans and sort the items placed in the bag. Diane thanked LuAnn for her work and asked for additional volunteers. This project is in conjunction with EEJ (Ecumenical Eco-Justice.)

Ongoing City Partnership Reports

A. Historic Preservation — Dr. Kim Schutte

1. Diane thanked Kim for her work on Facebook for SEAC during May
2. The committee was reminded about a new FaceBook page dedicated to St. Joseph Historic Preservation.

B. Water Protection — Stormwater subcommittee. Colleen Armstrong reported that she has submitted a grant to Chuck Kempf regarding planting pollinator plants at the Remington Nature Center.

Program: Roger Martin shared a comprehensive program on the history of the Landmarks Commission, on which he has served for three six year terms. He was introduced by his daughter, Sara Markt.

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

GEO Team includes organizations, academic institutions, community groups and individuals which represent stakeholders. SEAC is represented as well as the City. The next meeting is at 3 PM June 21 — (no report due to time constraints)

Monthly focus for Facebook/City Highlights: 2021 Facebook monthly themes:

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| Feb | Clean Energy Focus (Dr. Drake) |
| March | Native Plants (LuAnn) |
| April | Earth Day (Green Small Business Awards with #GreenerStJoe) Balanced approaches to agriculture and energy (Jeff Powelson) |

May Historic Preservation (Dr. Schutte)
June Continued historic preservation (Landmark Commission - Report from Roger Martin)
July Sustainable urban planning/architecture (Presentation by Sara Markt)
August Trees (Dr. Barta)
September Pollinators (Jeff Powelson)
October Sustainable energy technologies (Dr. Drake)
November Water Conservation (Katie Bruegge)
December

New Business:

We discussed the possibility of meeting in person at our August 19 meeting. Kim stated we could meet in the 4th floor conference room which has Zoom/hybrid capability. We will plan on this unless there is increased Covid concern.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 21, 3:00 per Zoom. Sarah Markt will share about sustainability and the built environment.

Minutes by Diane Waddell