

CITY CLERK

**Sustainable Environment Advisory Committee Minutes**  
**March 20, 2019 5:00 PM**  
**First Floor Conference Room, City Hall**  
**1100 Frederick, St. Joseph, Missouri**

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The Sustainable Environment Advisory Committee met on March 20, 2019 at 5 PM in the First Floor Conference Room, City Hall. Diane Waddell, moderator, called the meeting to order. Roll was called by way of introductions. Members present were LuAnn Cadden, Dr. Elizabeth Sawin, Sean DeWeese, and Diane Waddell. Staff present were Nic Hutchison, City Planner and staff to the committee, Brady McKinley, Assistant Director of Public Works, and Georganne Bowman, Stormwater Coordinator. Martha Clark, ISA Certified Arborist and committee consultant was also recognized. Diane welcomed all present, including community members.

Minutes of the February 20, 2019 meeting were recognized.

Diane noted the **Statement of Purpose** in recognition of the fact 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.*

#### **Recent and current business**

Nic reported on the March **Mayors' Climate Network Conference Call** with both a written and verbal report. Members are welcome to join the April call.

#### **Tree tags, tree planting, other tree related reports**

Martha Clark stated that the previous **tree tag program** was in 2015 and 44 trees were tagged. Two of the trees died and 10 tags were stolen. We agreed that we would use the tags we have for trees still living. We will apply for a TRIM grant for additional tags, and work on clarification of details regarding a TRIM grant. The tags were about \$20 each through First Street Graphics. We plan to proceed with applying current tags to matching trees. Martha will select a couple dates for tying on the tags. Interested in helping are Dr. Sawin, Fred Sawin, LuAnn Cadden, Shelley White, and Diane Waddell. At some point later we will choose additional trees to tag and continue the project.

Betty noted that when a very large oak tree on the parkway had to be removed by the city, she had requested a part of the tree be kept. A very large slab of the tree was set aside and she has been looking for a permanent site for it. Parks Dept office and Remington are possible sites.

Sean, who works in environmental compliance at Mosaic, has begun to coordinate with Lonnie Messbarger from MO Conservation Department about native plantings. These are on the northern part of the Mosaic campus.

We discussed our **Arbor Day booth** at MO Dept of Conservation on April 13 from 9:30 - noon. Volunteers include Dr. Betty and Fred Sawin, LuAnn Cadden, and Diane Waddell. LuAnn has possible activities which she can bring but details were not confirmed.

Martha has ordered 12 trees for our two 'adopted' pocket parks. The Parks Department will pick these (and other trees) in St. Louis from Forest ReLeaf. We agreed to do planting of 6 trees

each at Vories Park and Seitz Park. Martha is coordinating the planting with Jeff Atkins. We will plan to plant more trees in the fall. Spring planting date will be likely mid-May.

### **Continuing and possible new plans for this committee**

#### **Raising Awareness about the Committee**

We discussed what types of coverage we could do to promote the work of the committee and the importance of environmental sustainability, including planting trees. We agreed that a brochure, which could be a part of **Earth Day awareness**, would be helpful.

No specific Earth Day Project has been designated, although raising awareness of environmental sustainability would be primary.

We agreed that **discouraging Single Use plastic** would be a goal. We will host a speaker from Kansas City, Kathleen Corbin, with a program listed as a work session to start at 5 PM, in May or June. We agreed unanimously that this committee would go on record to discourage plastic bottles, including plastic water bottles, and to encourage reusable hot and cold beverage containers. We applaud businesses which have fountains for refilling reusable water bottles.

We noted the possibility of incorporating **Green Partners** such as businesses, agencies and other organizations which represent and encourage sustainability. An example of an organization which would be an excellent example is Master Gardeners.

Diane introduced Georganne Bowman, Stormwater Coordinator, who spoke on **StormWater Management Plan for the City**. We thanked Georganne for an excellent, informative presentation. We agreed as a result, to help support appropriate tall grass habitat, such as in wetlands. We also want to promote native grasses, trees, and other native plants when possible.

**Next meeting is Wednesday, April 17, 5 PM** — Nic Hutchison, City Planner, will review a new manual from MO Conservation on Conservation Planning for Urban environments.