

Sustainable Environment Advisory Committee Minutes
October 16, 2019
5:00 PM Work Session, 5:30 Meeting
First Floor Conference Room, City Hall
1100 Frederick, St. Joseph, Missouri

City of Saint Joseph
2019 OCT 21 AM 8:07

The Sustainable Environment Advisory Committee met at 5 PM on October 6, 2019 for a Work Session then 5:30 for a regular meeting in the First Floor Conference Room of City Hall.

Present for both sessions were LuAnn Cadden, Jan Storts, Sean DeWeese, Diane Waddell, moderator, and Nic Hutchison, staff. Diane welcomed a new member, Dr. Dawn Drake, Assistant Professor at Missouri Western State University, who reviewed her education and current work at Western.

At the beginning of the **Work Session**, Diane reviewed the current goals which are:

- Rethink, Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
- Plant and nurture trees
- Decrease single-use plastics
- Decrease greenhouse gas emissions

The group brainstormed ideas which would help enhance those goals.

1. Sustainable Alliance of St Joseph is a possible name for our Green Affiliates program. This is an affiliation assembled by SEAC of organizations and businesses which encourage and support environmentally sustainable practices. There are several things we need to decide about the Alliance including membership, cost and qualifications. We also need to continue to look at what other cities about our size are doing regarding promoting and encouraging green businesses and supporting sustainable organizations.

2. Promoting the work of SEAC and encouraging sustainability in the community was discussed within the realm of social media.

- a. Facebook. Nic will set up a Facebook page and at this time, Jan Storts and LuAnn Cadden will be administrators.
- b. We discussed other type of social media and who would be our audience. LuAnn will check with her daughter, who is a student at Western, about suggestions. We are hoping to have a connection/partnership with Western regarding sustainability.
- c. Sean suggested that we could connect with the Mosaic "Connect It" web page for employees.
- e. The City Highlights news and the Regular Joe were suggested as an outlet for our news.
- f. An idea is that SEAC would have a monthly environmental theme and a couple articles each month would be written by SEAC members. Dawn will make a listing for each month of what could be the theme.

Regular Scheduled Meeting

Diane called the regular meeting to order.

We await minutes from September 18, 2019 meeting

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

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

Reports, conference calls, meetings, coordination with advisors, staff and partner organizations

Mayors' Climate Network Conference Call and Energy Savings Project— no report.

Sustainability at Mosaic. Sean reported that he and a couple members of grounds crew continue to work on pollinator habitat on the grounds north of Mosaic. They are also working on planting natural grasses in the area.

Conferences, previous and upcoming

Diane will be attending the Growing Sustainable Communities Conference, Oct 24, 25, in Dubuque IA.

Reports and follow up on projects

Tree Value Signs — Martha Clark

Many thanks to Martha Clark, Gracie Sauter and St. Joseph Youth Alliance, Lonnie Messbarger, Tree Board and SEAC representatives for putting up the signs.

Pocket Parks and Tree Planting - Martha Clark, Arborist

Martha was unable to attend the meeting but had communicated with Diane about current work in the Pocket Parks and coordination of planting trees when appropriate. She is working with Parks and Rec on this as well as Gracie Sauter of St. Joseph Youth Alliance.

SEAC GOALS, Related Sub-committees

Report on Recycling with St. Joseph musical events through EEJ — LuAnn has worked through the summer doing recycling during city music events, in coordination with Ecumenical Eco-Justice and Habitat for Humanity.

Reducing Single Use Plastics — Nic reported that he is working with an intern through the Political Science Department at Western, who is researching ways to coordinate with the City on reducing Single Use Plastics. We would like him to speak with us in November.

Adjourn: Next meeting November 20, 2019

Minutes submitted by Diane Waddell