

City of Lawrence
Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB)
June 12, 2013 minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT: Boog Highberger, Matt Lehrman, Michael Morley, Dale Nimz, Kathleen Nuckolls, Daniel Poull, Adam Ritchie, Ian Spomer, Steve Vukelich

MEMBERS ABSENT: Scott White

STAFF PRESENT: Tammy Bennett, Eileen Horn, Kathy Richardson

PUBLIC PRESENT: Leslie Soden

Call Meeting to Order (Dale Nimz, Vice Chair person)

Take roll call to determine quorum of members.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motion and second to approve the May 8, 2013 minutes (Adam Ritchie /Ian Spomer). Vote: Motion was passed unanimously.

Discussion with Mayor Mike Dever – Item deferred, as Mayor Dever was unable to attend this meeting.

Paperless billing for Municipal water/wastewater. Steve Vukelich asked the SAB to discuss the options for paperless billing for the City of Lawrence municipal water and wastewater service. Staff shared that the option currently exists, therefore no further discussion or action was taken by SAB. http://www.lawrenceks.org/utility_billing/e-billing

Staff Reports

Eileen Horn addressed all items on the Sustainability Coordinator report. Key highlights included: updates on the Healthy Communities Initiative Grant awarded to the Health Dept. for policies to promote healthy food in public venues, the results of the Green Business Leaders Program, the launch of the Hertz On Demand car-sharing program, and the collaboration with other university towns to build a "Green" Rental Housing App for renters to include sustainability items in their rental decisions.

Eileen also shared research she conducted on the KCMO example of asking the "How does this contribute to a more sustainable Kansas City?" question on city ordinances and resolutions. Eileen spoke with Dennis Murphy of Kansas City, and various city of Lawrence staff to learn more about the feasibility of adapting a feature like this to our city of Lawrence agendas.

Eileen shared her perspective with the SAB about this item: If SAB is interested in an item that would help institutionalize sustainability (like asking a question on ordinances might), it is Eileen's opinion that the Commission's regular agenda isn't the right fit for this, because, if an item makes it to the agenda, key sustainability decisions (equipment, materials, etc.) have already been determined. Therefore, Eileen shared with SAB her efforts to work to revise the city's existing Environmental Procurement Policy to expand to additional sustainability initiatives (i.e. energy efficiency), and to work with department directors and staff to ensure that this existing purchasing policy drives sustainability decisions earlier in the process. SAB was supportive of this direction, and Eileen agreed to report back with an update at the July meeting.

Kathy Richardson discussed program updates included in the Solid Waste Division report, including a report on the May Electronics Recycling Event. Kathy also presented the SAB with an update on the opportunity to cancel the Lawrence Energy Conservation Fair this year in order to partner with the Mother Earth News Fair coming to Lawrence in October. The drawbacks and benefits of collaboration with this event were discussed by the SAB, with the resulting conclusion to cancel this year's Fair and reach out to Mother Earth News to brainstorm a collaborative education and outreach effort.

Motion and second to cancel the Lawrence Energy Conservation Fair. (Daniel Poull / Michael Morley). Motion carried unanimously.

Member Updates: None

Public Comment:

Leslie Soden attended the SAB meeting to share with the SAB that the current city commission will be considering their goals for the upcoming year as part of their budget discussion on the June 18th agenda. She encouraged the SAB to engage the commissioners to ensure that sustainability remains a priority for them.

The SAB discussed her suggestion, and decided to send a letter to the mayor and commission, sharing with them the goals set by the SAB. Dale Nimz will draft and send the letter.

Motion made to send the city commission a letter with the SAB goals prior to their next meeting. (Michael Morley / Adam Ritchie). Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Next meeting: July 10, 2013 at 5:30 p.m.

Attachments:

Sustainability Coordinator Report
Waste Reduction and Recycling Division Report