



Sustainability Commission Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 5, 2021

6:00 PM

Meeting Held Via: Zoom

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call: Ralph Bicknese, Stefan Denson, Meghan Hagerty-Homa, Nancy Schick, Heidi Schoen, Jonathan Spencer. The staff present included Laura Miller.
- III. Public Comment: Jennifer Kuriloff, a student at Washington University, commented that she is an intern at the Sierra Club and would like to learn more about Maplewood's sustainability issues.
- IV. Approval of Minutes from the August 3, 2021 Meeting: Denson made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Spencer.
- V. Sustainability Commission Boundaries: Denson referenced the Commission's role and resolution and approach to handling business. The Commission needs a plan with targets and goals that should include public participation.

Commission discussed their role and work plan.

- As we bring on projects to look for a champion to take on the project.
- Improve the pipeline between the Commission and City Council.
- The Commission is advisory only.
- Draft plan has action steps, not focused goals.
- Help guide work and not feel so overwhelmed.
- Mini workgroups to help share the work, delegate the work to each other.
- Shared goals with other commissions.
- Attend other commission meetings.
- Platform to edit and comment on the work plan.
- Does the Council have goals for us?

Commission discussed report for City Council.

- Report some priorities with short-term and long-term goals.

Schoen asked if there was a comparable city to Maplewood.

VI. Old Business

- Library Roof: Miller reported that the city received bids, not budgeted and costly. Should be installed in the next 6-12 months. Solar is not budgeted. Does the Commission know of any grants and would the Commission be willing to help with a grant.

Commission was not aware of any grants. Schoen referenced the Foundation Center searchable database.

Discussed Renew MO – a group buy program for commercial and municipal entities.

Spencer commented that a previous report to Council included putting a funding mechanism in place to fund solar for the Library roof.

- Lights Out Resolution:
 - Miller responded that she would discuss with the city manager.
- Accessory Dwelling Units:
 - Decide if it makes sense to keep in the work plan.
 - Get direction from the Council.
 - Referenced St. Louis County's approach.
 - Involvement from Plan and Zoning,
- Climate Action Plan:
 - Bicknese inquired about funding to do a greenhouse gas inventory and a climate action plan.
- Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy:
 - Miller commented that she will revisit with department heads and city manager.
- Garden/Yard Contest:
 - Make part of education piece in work plan.
- Guest Speaker Partnership with the Library:
 - Spencer made a motion to remove from old business and add to the work plan.
- 2021 St. Louis County Recycling and Solid Waste Reduction Grant – Miller reported that the event is March 5 from 8 AM – 12 PM and will let the Commission know if volunteers are needed.

Spencer commented that the Commission recommended to the Council to recognize Indigenous People's Day and the Council passed an ordinance.

VII. New Business:

Denson asked about television presence for the City. Miller replied that she was not aware of any discussion.

Jennifer Kuriloff thanked the Commission for allowing her to sit in on the meeting and sharing contact information to keep in touch.

Bicknese suggested Kuriloff provide a presentation on clean energy cities.

VIII. Adjournment: Denson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bicknese. Meeting adjourned at 7:12 PM.