

**Sustainability Advisory Committee**

**Minutes**

**January 8, 2020 5:30PM**

**In Attendance:** Jim Triplett, George Weeks, Denise Fitzpatrick, Andrew Ouellette, Cameron Alden, Vonnie Corsini

Meeting called to order at 5:40pm

**Meeting location:** City Hall

Welcome and introductions

Approval of the Agenda

**OLD BUSINESS**

Update on Earth Day - Fitzpatrick reported that the Earth Day Committee met and made progress on plans. Interest is good and reservations for booths are coming in. Food trucks are anticipated. Pittsburg’s Earth Day celebration will be April 18th. The next meeting of the Earth Day Committee will be on January 22nd at 4:00PM.

Update on Resale Center - Triplett provided an update on progress to create a Resale Center. He has followed up with potential participants.

Report on Student Engagement – Triplett provided an update. Two students who are interested in participating will be invited to the next Earth Day meeting. Copies of sustainability materials will be handed out.

School Initiatives – Fitzpatrick discussed the struggles encountered when attempting to establish initiatives in schools. Ideas like moving away from Styrofoam in the cafeterias or initiating other sustainable processes or programs is difficult.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Citizens’ Climate Lobby – Tony Schmidt of the Citizens’ Climate Lobby is interested in addressing the Committee and perhaps ask the City Commission to attend. We will see if he can attend the February meeting. He is the State Coordinator for the organization and will provide a presentation on addressing climate issues. Jim would like to launch a program that can be utilized by local educators.

Food Desert Grants – Triplett explained that the grant was originally planned to look into options in Arma after the grocery store closed, but they declined to move forward, so they are now looking at grocery options for Cherokee.

Wealth Day – Triplett explained that the Climate and Energy Project will be sponsoring Wealth Day in Topeka on Monday, February 10, 2020. Wealth Day is intended to be environmental advocacy and education and will have updates on current environmental issues, meetings with environmental organizations, and opportunities to engage a wide range of people on issues surrounding water, energy, air, land, transportation and health.

Future Initiatives for Committee

The Committee discussed the possibility of an award program that recognizes sustainable initiatives and programs in public and private organizations. This could be a way of raising awareness and promoting sustainable practices in the community. The concept is a “Promote Green” award.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Adjourned