

**Sustainability Advisory Committee Draft Notes**

**November 10, 2021 5:30PM**

**Meeting location:** City Hall

Attendees: D. Fitzpatrick, M. Lunde, A. Oullette, N. Scott, G. Weeks, J Triplett, J Byers

Approval of the Agenda

*The agenda was approved by consensus.*

**OLD BUSINESS**

Citywide Cleanup Update

*Despite the significant rainfall, the citywide cleanup was a success. There were over 300 citizens who signed up for pickup and dozens of volunteers helping to fill City trucks and load the materials into dumpsters. Dr. Triplett suggested that it be made clear that the Recycling Center takes bulky items.*

Recycling Center Update

*Dr. Triplett reported that the Recycling Center has benefitted from high commodity prices. They have purchased some new equipment and have a new web site. They have improved their social media presence. They are starting to see some new interest and support in the community.*

University Efforts Update

*Emerson Tice will be providing reports; there is funding available for the university toward including sustainability elements in courses; the aquaponics project is waiting for utility work to be completed.*

Green Award Program Progress

*The group working on this has not met; working on compiling data from the survey; group will meet and work on a program over the next couple of months.*

**NEW BUSINESS**

SAC Goals and Priorities

*Discussion of the SAC’s goals and priorities started with the need to provide education on sustainability issues to the community; there was concern expressed that the committee and its efforts have not been visible; the sustainability marketing course can help with students; a suggestion was made that one of the most valuable things the members can do is to be available to the community so that they can have a place to voice their sustainability concerns and a potential mechanism for action; the committee can also act as a barometer of how the city is doing in terms of sustainability issues and to communicate that to City officials;*

*There was discussion of the ability of the committee to influence codes; an example was given of a landscaping policy that encourages more native plantings; this concept could be brought before the committee and potentially the City Commission; there could also be a policy that encourages avoiding pesticides*

*Another potential area of concern expressed was air quality; there is no regular air quality testing and some ongoing monitoring efforts were suggested*

**OTHER BUSINESS**

*There was discussion of moving the SAC meetings to the third Tuesday of the month; this was agreed to through consensus to begin in January of 2022.*

*It was also agreed to elect new officers at the next meeting; Ouellette as vice-chair was nominated as the next chair and Fitzpatrick agreed to be nominated as vice-chair.*