

2021 AUG 23 PM 1:19

**Minutes**  
**Sustainable Environment Advisory Committee (SEAC)**  
**St. Joseph, MO**  
**July 28 , 2021 3:00 PM**

This was a Zoom meeting set up through the City of St. Joseph.

Diane Waddell, moderator, welcomed members, staff and consultants. Members present were Jan Storts, Kyle Beauchamp, and Dr. Dawn Drake, and Diane Waddell. Dr. Kim Schutte, Historic Preservation Planner; Colleen Armstrong, Assistant Environmental Services Supervisor, Water Protection; Katie Bruegge, Technical Services Manager, Water Protection, Martha Clark, ISA-Certified Arborist and consultant were City staff present.

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

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*

**Goals:** Rethink, Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle  
Plant and nurture trees and native plants  
Decrease single-use plastics  
Encourage and support businesses which model environmental sustainability  
Decrease greenhouse gas emissions

**Old Business:**

Green Small Business Emphasis, including Earth Day Awards

The sub-committee of Jan Storts, Sara Markt, LuAnn Cadden and Diane Waddell bring to SEAC a proposal to change slightly the description of the Green Business (GB) agreement in order to make the description more user-friendly. Sara and Diane have met with Trevor Tutt, representing Main Street St. Joseph Downtown, regarding adding a GB listing to their listing of businesses and organizations in the this area, which follows the Downtown Precise Plan boundaries.

Kyle moved to approve the wording change in the agreement (last paragraph) to the following:  
 "In order to qualify as a Green Business, a business will have incorporated one or more of the above practices or is looking to incorporate them in the near future.  
 (SEAC is happy to provide guidance and support as needed.)"  
 Jan seconded. Motion passed.

Greenway Project.

Kyle Beauchamp reported as follow up from previous questions the committee has had. He has talked with representatives from Bird Scooters who agree that the plan is acceptable.

Kyle has also talked with Steve Groshong representing EMS, who states there is no conflict with the Greenway plan and EMS routes or work.

General follow up will be through Public Works, specifically Brady McKinley, Asst. Dir. of Public Works.

Note that this committee has voiced no further concerns and in general supports the project.

As reminder is that for a trial/pilot run, he recommends the following streets to be used, and if all goes well, to be included in the greenway network:

[10th to 14th on Mitchell, Mitchell to Penn on 14th, 14th to 17th on Penn, Penn to Lafayette on 17th, 17th to 34th on Lafayette] [24th to 28th (Noyes) on Messanie, [Crescent Drive to State St on Ashland Ave, Ashland Ave to 26th on State St, State to Frederick on 26th, 26th to 25th on Frederick, Frederick to Messanie on 25th]  
 [ Messanie to Lafayette on 24th]  
 [Lafayette to Duncan on 26th, 26th to 24th on Duncan, Duncan to Jackson on 24th, 24th to Spratt on Jackson, Jackson to Pacific on Spratt]

Tree Projects, Prairie Restoration and Native Plantings

- A. MWSU Prairie dedicated to Dr. John Rushin —Dr. Drake reported that the top of the prairie has been mowed and that a burn is planned for 2022, which will be the 3rd year of growth. Trees are also being marked.
- B. Krug Park Native Plantings — no new report.
- C. Mosaic/MDC Prairie — no report
- D. Tree projects/plans — Martha Clark reported that trees from Forest ReLeaf should be ordered ASAP for fall planting. Spire is again sponsoring a pick up from St. Louis and bringing the trees to KC. Reps from St. Joseph could pick the trees up in KC. Martha will check with Scott Koch with Parks about his advice for planting more trees in the pocket parks, including Seitz Park.
- E. Preservation and Property Maintenance “Reimagining Heritage Neighborhoods” — There are no new plans at this time.
- F. Native Planting Team — Jeff Powelson (LuAnn Cadden, Shelley White, Mary Jo Harris, Kyle Beauchamp, and Diane Waddell)  
The team had a very successful first meeting. Jeff Powelson, MDC and SEAC Advisory Consultant has with Chuck Kempf as well as Dr. Gabe Edgar from SJSD regarding the possibility of grants and to discuss planting native on specific sites. Mary Jo Harris and Ann Manns also met with them. Minutes of this meeting are attached.

Recycling LuAnn Cadden continues to be working on gathering cans for recycling at Parties on the Parkway and Sounds of Summer. This project is in conjunction with EEJ (Ecumenical Eco-Justice.)

Ongoing City Partnership Reports

- A. Historic Preservation — Dr. Kim Schutte — no report
- B. Water Protection — Stormwater subcommittee. Colleen Armstrong and her team are expanding a program of planting native plants in strategic sites.

**Community Awareness:** SEAC will join with Ecumenical Eco-Justice to host a sustainable energy Expo with speakers and booths. Included in the speaker list are Dr. Drake and Dr. Csengele Barta representing MWSU Biology, and Kyle Beauchamp plus several others.

Additional exhibits will include Water Protection and MWSU Biology and many more. Included on the planning team are Jan Storts, Kyle, LuAnn, and Diane Waddell from SEAC. From EEJ are Natalie Ward and Jackie Lewin.

Mayors for Clean Energy (Ready for 100 Campaign): GEO Team (Green Energy Opportunity Team) GEO Team includes organizations, academic institutions, community groups and individuals which represent stakeholders. SEAC is represented as well as the City.

The GEO team continues to meet on the third Monday at 3 PM. A subcommittee is working on writing a Resolution to decrease greenhouse gases in the city. They hope to have that completed by August. They are also meeting with Evergy officials on August 9 to discuss how to reduce energy consumption and look toward renewable energy use. Persons on that call will include Bryan Carter, City Manager, Dr. Dawn Drake, Peter Hinkle representing the City in energy efficiency, Brady McKinley, Public Works, Dr. Kim Schutte, Historic Preservation Planner, and Diane Waddell, plus the Evergy officials.

Monthly focus for Facebook/City Highlights: 2021 Facebook monthly themes:

Feb	Clean Energy Focus (Dr. Drake)
March	Native Plants (LuAnn)

April Earth Day (Green Small Business Awards with #GreenerStJoe)  
Balanced approaches to agriculture and energy (Jeff Powelson)  
May Historic Preservation (Dr. Schutte)  
June Continued historic preservation (Landmark Commission - Report from Roger Martin)  
July Sustainable urban planning/architecture (Presentation by Sara Markt)  
August Trees (Dr. Barta)  
September Pollinators (Jeff Powelson)  
October Sustainable energy technologies (Dr. Drake)  
November Water Conservation (Katie Bruegge)  
December

**New Business and Public Comment -** None

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 25, 3:00 per Zoom. Sarah Markt will share about sustainability and the built environment.**

**Minutes by Diane Waddell**