

Sustainable Environment Advisory Committee Minutes
April 17, 2019 5:00 PM
First Floor Conference Room, City Hall
1100 Frederick, St. Joseph, Missouri

The Sustainable Environment Advisory Committee met on April 17, 2019 at 5 PM in the First Floor Conference Room, City Hall. The group began with a Work Session led by Nic Hutchison, City Planner, on Conservation Planning Tools for Urban Environments. The regular meeting proceeded after the Work Session.

Diane Waddell, moderator, called the meeting to order. Diane recognized City Councilmember Brenda Blessing and thanked her for her presence. Roll was called by way of introductions. Members present were LuAnn Cadden, Dr. Elizabeth Sawin, Jan Storts, Dr. Csengele Barta and Diane Waddell. Nic Hutchison, City Planner and staff to the committee and Martha Clark, ISA Certified Arborist and committee consultant were also recognized. Diane welcomed Kyleigh Blue, representing St. Joseph Youth Alliance. Diane welcomed community members.

Minutes of the March 20, 2019 meeting were recognized.

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Diane noted the **Statement of Purpose** in recognition of the fact 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.*

Recent and current business

Diane recognized Councilmember Blessing, who reported that at the beginning of the City Council meeting on April 22, Earth Day would be recognized by proclamation. SEAC members are encouraged to attend. This will be at the beginning of the meeting.

Nic reported on the April **Mayors' Climate Network Conference Call** with both a written and verbal report.

Tree tags, tree planting, other tree related reports

Martha Clark stated that the previous **tree tag program** was in 2015 and 44 trees were tagged. Two of the trees died and 10 tags were stolen. We agreed that we would use the tags we have for trees still living. Martha will choose a day upcoming which would be a good day to tag the trees and let volunteers on the committee know.

Dr. Sawin and Shelley White are hoping to attend a upcoming TRIM grant workshop in Columbia, MO, and will report back with creative ways for which we could request grant money.

We reviewed our **Arbor Day booth** at the MO Dept of Conservation on April 13. Volunteers included Dr. Sawin, Jan Storts, LuAnn Cadden, Shelley White, Andrea Cole, and Diane Waddell. The event went well.

Martha has ordered trees for our two 'adopted' pocket parks. The Parks Department picked these up (with other trees) from Forest ReLeaf. We will be working with the Parks Department on the planting of 6 trees each at Vories Park and Seitz Park. Martha is coordinating the planting with the Parks Department and with volunteers from St. Joseph Youth Alliance and will

let Kyleigh and other volunteers know when the best day for planting would be. We will plan to plant more trees in the fall.

Continuing and possible new plans for this committee:

Diane noted that members are welcome to signed up to help clean up Mt. Mora Road as a community **Earth Day project** on April 20.

We reviewed a **brochure** designed by Jan Storts to raise awareness about SEAC. The group thanked Jan for her work.

We agreed that **discouraging Single Use plastic** continues to be a goal. We have agreed that this committee would go on record to discourage plastic bottles, including plastic water bottles, and to encourage reusable hot and cold beverage containers.

We continue to plan to incorporate **Green Partners, Affiliates** such as businesses, agencies and other organizations which represent and encourage sustainability. We could eventually list these in our brochure as well.

Next meeting is Wednesday, May 15, 5 PM — The work session at will be led by Katherine Corbin entailed "Planet or Plastic."