

Minutes
Sustainable Environment Advisory Committee (SEAC)
St. Joseph, MO
January 20, 2021 3:00 PM

CITY CLERK

2021 MAR 15 PM 1:16

This was Zoom meeting set up through City of St. Joseph by Dr. Kim Schutte

Diane welcomed committee members, staff and guests and called the meeting to order.

Roll call was by check-in. Members present were LuAnn Cadden, Dr. Dawn Drake, Jan Storts, Dr. Elizabeth (Betty) Sawin, Sean DeWeese, Sara Markt and Diane Waddell. City staff and consultants present were Katie Bruegge (Technical Services Manager, Water Protection,) and Dr. Kim Schutte (Historic Preservation Consultant.)

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
- Decrease single-use plastics
- Decrease greenhouse gas emissions

We discussed adding "and native plants" to "plant and nurture trees," and a fifth goal, which is to "Encourage and support businesses which model environmental sustainability." It was agreed by consensus to add these goals.

Special Program and Proposal:

Diane will contact the members of the committee who have agreed to be on the Mayors for Clean Energy/100% Clean Energy Committee. She will set up a meeting with Mayor McMurray and those SEAC members to review the Kansas City and St. Louis resolutions and determine nominees for the team.

Reports:

Katie Bruegge reported that her position has changed with Water Protection. She reported on work in her department including rain garden plantings. The green infrastructure technicians in the department are working on the possibility of sharing seeds of native plants which were harvested from local plantings. Also discussed was overland stormwater drainage vs. underground pipes.

Dr. Schutte noted the continuing coordination of historic preservation and environmental sustainability. To follow up on this, Sara will ask Roger Martin, who has been serving on the Landmark Commission, to speak to this group in June. This follows our theme of Historic Preservation for May.

Old Business:

Diane updated the group on the **Sustainable Alliance of St. Joe.** (The Sustainable Alliance of St. Joe [would be] a group of vetted organizations, businesses, and educational facilities in St. Joseph which models, encourages, and supports sustainable environmental practices.)

- A. Planning continues with MWSU Strategic Communication class which began fall 2020 and will run through the spring semester of 2021.
- B. LuAnn, Jan and Diane continue to meet with Dr. Jennifer Jackson and the class, and students are encouraged to report to our meetings.

New Business:

Super Science Saturday, January 30, will be virtual. Dr. Csengele Barta has invited SEAC

to make videos about SEAC. (LuAnn and Diane are working on these with assist from Natalie Ward. One is on SEAC history and goals and one on SEAC activities in the community. LuAnn also has one on reusing and recycling.

SEAC Facebook:

Jan, LuAnn, Dawn and Katie consistently update the SEAC Facebook page. New themes for 2021 were discussed and the following was decided:

2021 Facebook monthly themes:

Feb

March Native Plants (LuAnn)

April Earth Day (has a connection with our Small Business Awards)

May Historic Preservation (Dr. Schutte)

June Continued historic preservation (Landmark Commission)

July Sustainable urban planning/architecture (Sara Markt)

August

September

October

November

December

Dr. Drake will focus on a couple months to focus on energy technology.

Katie Bruegge will adopt a month to focus on water conservation or something similar.

Next meeting — February 17, 3:00 PM, by Zoom. (Note we are changing to 3 PM for consistency.)

Submitted by Diane Waddell