



Little Rock Sustainability Commission

Minutes of Meeting for January 24, 2020 at 11:30am

Willie L. Hinton Neighborhood Resource Center

1. Chair Randy Pierce called the meeting to order at 11:33am. A quorum was present.
2. **Attendance:**
 - A. **Commissioners Present:** Jan Baker, Michael DeAngelis, Grant Duensing (by phone), Niki Evansingston, Rachel Furman, Andrew Jester, Uta Meyer, Casey Shepard, Randy Pierce, Linda K. Smith, Karen Zuccardi, Ron Hughes, Micah McLain
Commissioners Absent: Brittany Nichols, Michael Nichols
 - B. **Guests Present:** Scott Hamilton, Margaret Young, Dennis Wightman, David Hough
 - C. **Staff Present:** Melinda Glasgow – Sustainability Officer, Lennie Massanelli – Sustainability Educator, John Landosky – City of LR Bicycle & Pedestrian Coordinator
3. **Approval of Minutes from November 22, 2019 meeting:**

Pierce made a motion to approve last meeting's minutes. Meyer seconded the motion. All Commissioners approved.
4. **By-laws drafting update:**

Smith is updating the Sustainability Commission's by-laws and will have a draft for review before February 28th (our next monthly meeting).
5. **Recap of the Retreat and next steps to build 2025 and Beyond Action Plan:**

DeAngelis suggested the Commission define the chairs for each committee now, rather than once the new commissioners begin in February.

 - Randy Pierce will be chair of Waste/Reduction Committee
 - Andrew Jester will be chair of Energy Committee
 - Niki Evansingston is now chair of Education & Community Outreach Committee
 - Rachel Furman will be interim chair for Transportation Committee
 - Michael remains chair of Environment Committee

Each committee chair has taken their group's core notes from the Commission Retreat to condense and organize into a document the Commission can refer to as they plan the 2025 and Beyond Action Plan.

DeAngelis asked the Commissioners to send him any notes from the Retreat's breakout sessions or thoughts Commissioners may have post-retreat, pertaining to Action Plan goals.

6. **Staff Reports:**

Glasgow reported on the Single Use Task Force progress. Talks with Fayetteville's Environmental Director, Peter Nierengarten, suggest a statewide uniform language in drafting SUP ordinances. Dennis Wightman has done extensive research on municipality SUPB ordinances looking for how they addressed the guidance elements in their policies. The SUP task force will submit the collected data to the Board of Directors in last February/early March.

Massanelli reported on the Sustainability Summit. Tickets are now available to reserve on **Eventbrite**: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/city-of-little-rock-eleventh-annual-sustainability-summit-tickets-87344049403?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

Nominations for **Sustain the Rock Awards** are due by February 21. Please submit a form for the individual, organization, or business you feel is most deserving:

<https://www.littlerock.gov/for-residents/sustainability/sustain-the-rock-awards/>

7. **Committee Reports:**

Energy

Meets first Tuesday of the month at Rebel Kettle, 4:00pm.

- Jester reported on LED street lights – the biggest obstacle to switching to LED involves the cost due to Entergy tariffs on the city.
- Energy consumption of city buildings, such as Jim Dailey Fitness Center and Firestation #1 are prime opportunities for change in new energy policies being explored by the committee.
- Outdoor Lighting Ordinance – creating a task force is under consideration to work on policies for night sky pollution reduction

Environment

Meeting scheduled for Monday, January 27 at 6:00pm at Fletcher Library.

Zuccardi will create a one-page form for each committee chair to fill out as uniform record of notes from monthly meetings.

Waste & Reduction

Committee will be its own entity, and apart from the Plastic Free Little Rock group, moving forward. Time/date of monthly meetings TBA.

ACE Glass recycling has been indefinitely tabled by the Mayor. Meanwhile, residents can take glass to any drop-off location: <https://www.aceglassrecycling.net/drop-off-locations/>

Public Works is in discussion about funding Neighborhood Community Centers as city glass drop-off locations.

Education & Communication

Meetings are held each second Tuesday, 6:00 pm, at The Centre at University Park, 6401 West 12th Street, Little Rock

Zuccardi reported on the Green Restaurant Initiative.

Transportation

The committee will now function as its own entity, and not as part of the BFCC. Future meeting times/dates TBA. Committee chair Micah McLain (stepping down as chair) asked the Commission to review the BFCC suggestions for the 2025/30 Action Plan that he uploaded to the shared google drive with comments and notes highlighting what the BFCC believe are the most impactful/important goals.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cTRcRraQtflaC3hO9quFSi4UBJJ7NcnYKAPmoWu5PRE/edit?usp=sharing>

8. Commissioners on 1-year term (terms end on 2/5/2020), or ending their position as commissioner for other reason, such as moving out of the city limits:

Linda Smith, Micah McLain, Karen Zuccardi, Casey Shepard, Jan Baker, Brittany Nichols

DeAngelis suggested commissioner Michael Nichols be contacted to determine his commitment to the Sustainability Committee, as Nichols has missed three consecutive monthly meetings. Chair Randy Pierce will contact Nichols.

9. Rack Card update

Niki Evansingston and Brittany Nichols are working on design and content with the Sustainability Office, which will fund this education/outreach material.

10. Citywide Cleanup – March 14th, 8:00am-noon

Visit <http://www.keeplittlerockbeautiful.com/get-involved/litter-prevention/2020-city-wide-cleanup/> for more information

11. Smith reported on PACE: Although the Little Rock PACE board has been inactive for some time, due to unfilled positions, the Pulaski County PACE is active – a Little Rock hotel recently claimed PACE credit!

Smith requested a Sustainability Office report on what the city's Green Team activities/goals are and how the Sustainability Commission can either weigh in or assist in meeting goals.

Smith reported that LR Fire Station #24 will open in February 2020 with LEED Gold status.

Smith would like to have Jessie Trigleth, Building Services Manager, report each year at the Sustainability Summit on the energy status of city buildings – citing the positive impact his report made at a previous Summit.

12. **Next Meeting** – February 28th

13. **Meeting ended at 1:41 pm**

Important Dates:

FEB 4th, Tuesday 4 – 5pm

Energy Committee

Rebel Kettle Brewing

FEB 24th, Monday 6 – 7pm

Environment Committee

Fletcher Library, Meeting Rm B

FEB 11th, Tuesday 6 – 7pm

Education Committee

Centre at University Park

Waste/Reduction Committee

and

Transportation Committee

Meetings TBA