



Little Rock Sustainability Commission

Minutes of Meeting for June 26, 2020 at 11:30am

Webex Virtual Meeting

1. Chair Karen Zuccardi called the meeting to order at 11:31 am. A quorum was present.
2. **Attendance:**
 - A. **Commissioners Present:** Jan Baker, Linda Bell, Michael DeAngelis, Katharine (Kay Kay) DeRossette, Grant Duensing, Rachel Furman, Ron Hughes, Andrew Jester, Uta Meyer, Michael Nichols, Randy Pierce, Casey Shepard, Karen Zuccardi
Commissioners Absent: Niki Evansingston, Malik Saafir
 - B. **Guests Present:** Scott Hamilton, Dennis Wightman, Barbara Osborne, Micah Nichols, Faith Mullins
 - C. **Staff Present:** Director Capi Peck, Melinda Glasgow – Sustainability Officer, Lennie Massanelli – Sustainability Educator, John Landosky – BikePed Coordinator
3. **Approval of Minutes from May 29, 2020 meeting:**
Zuccardi made a motion to approve last meeting's minutes. DeAngelis seconded the motion. All Commissioners approved.
4. **New Commissioner welcome:**
Katharine (Kay Kay) DeRossette
5. **Committee Reports:**

Transportation – Karen Zuccardi, interim chair

Landosky reported:

- Many cities have begun “Slow Streets” program, expanding business and public spaces to account for COVID
- League of American Bicyclists awarded Little Rock with Bike Friendly BRONZE designation – LR aims to advance to SILVER level by taking steps to improve bike safety and infrastructure

DeRossette shared info about the [Safe Routes to Parks Activating Communities](#) Project that she is working on with CALS. “We are applying the safe routes framework to War Memorial Park. There are several ways to get involved. Feel free to share the survey on social media.

1. Take this short survey by visiting lrprsurvey.org
2. Conduct a walk audit of the park by visiting walk.lrprsurvey.org
3. Attend a stakeholder meeting. Upcoming meetings are scheduled for Wednesday, July 1, and Wednesday, July 22 at 1:00 p.m. on Zoom.”

Energy – Andrew Jester, chair

Met through Zoom on Tuesday, June 2nd @ p.m.

- Hughes reported on home energy ratings (especially for renters), and ordinance for energy labeling on new homes effective first of 2021, hopefully.
- Jester reported on street lights – getting Entergy to change its tariff is an obstacle
- Jester mentioned value of free home audit, Massanelli will post about it on social media, Jester encouraged Commissioners to send Massanelli any ideas, articles, news related to sustainability for social media posting

Environment, Health and Wellness – Michael DeAngelis, chair

Met through Zoom on Monday, June 22nd @ 6:00 p.m.

- 2 project proposals were discussed:
 - Fourche Creek Watershed Management Plan
 - ✓ Recap in Committee meeting notes

DeAngelis made a motion to approve project proposal. Zuccardi seconded. All commissioners were in favor.

- USDA grant to support community gardens
 - ✓ Recap in Committee meeting notes

DeAngelis made a motion to support grant application. Hughes seconded. All commissioners were in favor.

Waste & Reduction – Randy Pierce, chair

Met through conference call on June 23rd at 3:00

- Director Peck recapped Waste Management contract extension (begins April 1, 2021), which includes glass and carton recycling – the Board is to further discuss on Tuesday, July 7th at 6:00 pm
- Glasgow – Ripple Glass picks up LR glass (no money is exchanged). Some bits of glass end up in residue and then goes to WM landfill (Two Pines). WM recycling program has to pay for WM garbage to take any residue, so it’s in their best interest to have as little residue as possible.

Education and Community Outreach – Niki Evansingston, chair

Met through Zoom on Tuesday, June 9th @ 6:00 p.m.

- Please refer to committee meeting notes for updates.

6. Sustainability during a pandemic – partnerships

- Zuccardi, Glasgow, and Massanelli met with Director Webb at Mosaic Church on Wednesday morning, June 24th, to help with food distribution. You can contact Director Webb at kathywebb14@gmail.com to volunteer help with food distribution for families in need.
- Zuccardi met Maricella Garcia, CLR Multicultural Liaison, for future partnership in bilingual efforts on behalf of Sustainability Commission.
- DeAngelis inquired about hunger relief efforts in LR – data gathering and getting info out to public in organized way, so residents know where distribution sites are. Asked if LRSC can help with that?
- Furman commented there might be apps of food distribution sites?
- DeRossette said there is a map on Be Mighty Little Rock website of meal pickup locations: <https://bemightylittlerock.org/find-a-meal-near-you/> -- She said that community gardens could be added to that site.

DeAngelis made a motion that Education/Community Outreach and Environment/Health/Wellness committees should collect and share information regarding food insecurity. Furman seconded. All commissioners were in favor.

7. LRSC Radio Show

- 6 weeks , 6 programs
- History of Commission and understanding of sustainability
- Food insecurity
- Energy
- Waste and Reduction
- Environment, Health and Wellness
- Transportation
 - Chairs of each committee will discuss content they want included, and who might want to be on the show from each committee.
 - DeAngelis:
 - Recommended we collect specific bio info from Commissioners, to be uniform
 - Showcase what's happening locally regarding sustainability – maybe highlight another place where they're doing it better, but focus on how CLR is doing it right
 - Brad Minnick hosts radio show called "Arts & Letters" and could be of help in organizing radio show – especially with timing of each section.
 - Radio section "sustainability tips" should be vetted by committees

Zuccardi made a motion to have each committee participate in LRSC radio show. Jester seconded. All Commissioners were in favor.

8. Bylaws status

- What can LRSC do to encourage Commissioners to join and be active in at least one committee?
- DeAngelis – bylaws should have language about required committee involvement

DeAngelis made a motion for the final LRSC meeting of 2020 to be on December 4th. Duensing seconded. All Commissioners were in favor.

Next virtual LRSC meeting will be on the July 24th.

Webex details will be made public later this month, and emailed to Commissioners, committee members, Directors Peck and Webb, and residents on LRSC mailing list.

Meeting adjourned at 1:12 p.m.

Minutes taken by Lennie Massanelli