



## Little Rock Sustainability Commission

Minutes of Meeting for October 23, 2020 at 11:30am

### Webex Virtual Meeting

1. Chair Karen Zuccardi called the meeting to order at 11:32 am. A quorum was present.
2. **Attendance:**
  - A. **Commissioners Present:** Jan Baker, Katharine (Kay Kay) DeRossette, Grant Duensing, Rachel Furman, Ron Hughes, Andrew Jester, Uta Meyer, Randy Pierce, Malik Saafir, Karen Zuccardi, Linda Bell, Michael Nichols  
**Commissioners Absent:** Niki Evansingston, Casey Shepard, Michael Nichols
  - B. **Guests Present:** Scott Hamilton, Julie Rhodes, Brandon Jeffus, Bruce McMath
  - C. **Staff Present:** Melinda Glasgow – Sustainability Officer, Lennie Massanelli – Sustainability Educator, John Landosky – BikePed Coordinator, Director Capi Peck, Director Kathy Webb
3. **Approval of Minutes from September 25, 2020 meeting:**  
**Meyer made a motion to approve last meeting’s minutes. Pierce seconded the motion. All Commissioners approved.**
4. **Citizens Input:** none, but Bruce McMath and Julie Rhodes introduced themselves
5. **General discussion**
  - ✓ Zuccardi – reminds commissioners to respect one another and be mindful of treatment of others on commission
  - ✓ Professional behavior within working groups (teams) and with the City staff
  - ✓ Baker – when do we address the email just sent by Evansingston?
  - ✓ Zuccardi – we will address the email when we have more information. The issue is for other city staff to look into and handle first. Probably can discuss this at next commission meeting.
6. **Approval of Bylaws**  
**Duensing made a motion to approve Bylaws. Seconded by DeRossette. All were in favor.**

## **7. Commissioners rolling out in 2020:**

- Zuccardi went over procedure to reapply to LRSC
- Nov. 2 – Board will vote for vacancy left by Michael DeAngelis
- Several other commissioners' terms will end in February 2021
- Director Webb – updates on commission info can be found on city's website, City Clerk Susan Langley can help with any questions, process and website information
- Zuccardi – when you apply for LRSC, gives you option to select serving for 1, 2, or 3 years. This info is kept up on the website

## **8. New Commissioners for 2021:**

- Zuccardi – expectations on how LRSC should help CLR as commissioners and team members
- Glasgow – packet for new commissioners/orientation – suggested ad hoc task force to work on packet
- Baker – vote on new officers in January 2021, before new commissioners arrive in February 2021
- Baker – suggests LRSC put together orientation packet for new commissioners
- LRSC agrees to do design the packet, Zuccardi is happy to help in this project

## **9. Radio show updates:**

- 3 shows have been recorded – Intro to LRSC, Energy, Environment, Health & Wellness
- Massanelli talked with KABF to confirm air dates
- Zuccardi – how do we get young students involved in radio show topics? Discussion?
- DeRossette – is producing a flyer
- Jester – can send radio show info to email list he has for the newsletter
- Glasgow – Jay Barth, Chief Education Officer, wants to help LRSC and LRSC with this
- Director Peck – don't forget the LR Zoo! Keep Susan Altrui in the loop – can be helpful with school children
- Meyer – Teachers particularly stressed right now – think on best strategy to make this productive. Better time later? After pandemic?
- Guest to LRSC meeting, Brandon Jeffus – taught sustainability at Little Rock Christian, and led the garden at this school – suggested reaching out to the youngest students is best practice, as they absorb sustainability lessons early and build on them as they grow through school
- Hughes – topics can determine who to reach out to for radio show promotion and involvement
- Remaining show to be recorded: Transportation, Waste & Reduction, Food Insecurity

## Energy – Andrew Jester, chair (Duensing reports for Jester)

- Bruce McMath presents – Dark Sky ordinance
  - ✓ He's been on Energy team 4 years
  - ✓ 3 certified energy experts on team
  - ✓ Frustration with lack of progress
  - ✓ No one on CLR staff to deal with energy efficiency issues
  - ✓ Progressive cities have good energy policies

- ✓ McMath outlined many programs/systems LR is lacking
- Director Webb – procedure for adopting ordinance is to first talk with LRSO, then City Manager Bruce Moore, going to the appropriate city department to discuss – these are a few of the things the Heights neighborhood association did when adopting tree ordinance
- 1. **Baker moved that the commission adopt the Dark Sky ordinance. Jester seconded.**
- 2. **Baker also moved that LRSC chair set up ad hoc committee to move ordinance forward, as suggested by Director Webb. Jester seconded. All were in favor of motion #1. All were in favor of motion #2.**

Zuccardi will send an email to the Commission and those wanting to participate in ad hoc committee will let her know. Must have at least 3 commissioners on committee to move forward.

#### Environment, Health and Wellness – Uta Meyer, chair

- Meeting was cancelled, due to chair medical emergency
- Via email, the team began taking action on getting support for the Arkansas Natural Yards program- voting on this support via email is still ongoing with this team before bringing it before the commission. More details on this project will be provided at the next commission meeting.

#### Waste & Reduction – Randy Pierce, chair

- Team discussed working with the city and some of the POAs to do a POA trash collection day. After Baker discouraged this type of collection, based on bad experiences in her neighborhood, the team is going back to drawing board to decide how to effectively give residents opportunity to dump large items free of charge for a one-time event.
- Discussed collection of plastic cutlery from restaurant take-out/delivery and repurpose it to organizations that feed the homeless. Bell brought up this option and offered good suggestions. Pierce will reach out to some LR schools regarding cutlery collection/distribution – either this year or first part of 2021.
- Director Peck questioned if #3-6 plastics could go into recycling cart? Glasgow responded that only #1 and #2 plastics have an end user in the market right now. Pierce reported data from the Recycling business sector.

#### Education & Community Outreach – Niki Evansingston, chair

- No updates from chair
- Zuccardi reported that the ECO team did meet in October.

#### Transportation – Kay Kay DeRossette, chair

- John Landosky reported for Kay Kay – team meeting was mostly about the radio show

### **10. Little Rock Sustainability Office staff reports:**

- Energy – Jester shared with LRSO a very informative ACEEE webinar that Massanelli was able to join. Monica Crayton with CLR Fleet department will be joining the team meeting in November.
- Environment, Health & Wellness – LRSO assisted with the radio show recording and now working on the editing
- ECO – Massanelli shared the ViPS reading day program info, in case commissioners want to get involved. Will email details to LRSC.
- Transportation – LRSO is working with this team on their radio show script and guests
- Waste & Reduction – working with Pierce on radio show script and guests, KLRB cleanup at Murray Park went really well – we encourage commissioners to participate when they can. Also, the Adopt-A-Street program could be project for W&R team or whole commission to consider.

Zuccardi – voting for Chair and Vice-Chair of LRSC will take place in January 2021 meeting. She encouraged all commissioners to consider running for these positions.

**One remaining virtual LRSC meeting this year:** December 4

Minutes taken by Lennie Massanelli