



Little Rock Sustainability Commission

Minutes of Meeting for December 4, 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:**

Commissioners Present: Jan Baker, Linda Bell, Katharine (Kay Kay) DeRossette, Grant Duensing, Rachel Furman, Ron Hughes, Andrew Jester, Uta Meyer, Michael Nichols, Randy Pierce, Malik Saafir, Gerald Turner, Karen Zuccardi

Commissioners Absent: Niki Evansingston

A. Guests Present: Dennis Wightman, Yolanda Dreher, Bri Hickmon

B. Staff Present: Melinda Glasgow – Sustainability Officer, Lennie Massanelli – Sustainability Educator, John Landosky – BikePed Coordinator, Director Kathy Webb
3. **Approval of Minutes from October 23, 2020 meeting:**

Zuccardi made a motion to approve last meeting’s minutes. Meyer seconded the motion. All Commissioners approved.
4. **Citizens Input:** none, but Dennis Wightman and Yolanda Dreher introduced themselves
5. **Commissioners terms ending in February 2021/New commissioners in 2021**

Glasgow reported:

 - R.O.C.K. Academy, its mission, LRSO involvement, Quality of Life segment
 - USB drive being created as the orientation packet – everyone on the commission now and in 2021 will receive a flash drive
6. Director Webb reported:
 - Gleaning of the garden event will happen January 9, 2021 around 10:00 am (definite time will be announced later).
 - “Turn Up for Hunger” is the event name – will be held at Western Hills Park in SWLR
 - This is a volunteer opportunity for LRSC who are interested
 - The garden is very large for safe distancing from other volunteers
 - Director Webb will send Zuccardi a sign-up link and Zuccardi will share that with the Commission.

7. Terms for Team chairs

Zuccardi outlined the process for choosing team chairs and encouraged all commissioners to consider this position in 2021.

8. Radio Show update

- Jester comments about his satisfaction with the show content and process, but dissatisfaction with the way KABF has botched airing of the show during most of the weeks
- Baker asks about a link to the radio shows for folks to click on and listen? Massanelli reports that IT is helping the LRSO transfer the mp3 files to video and upload all 6 shows on the city's website, which we will then be able to share out on social media.
- Discussion about whether to create more shows and what that might look like in the future, as well as intent of the show and its mission.

9. New Business

- Zuccardi expresses hope that new administration in D.C. will make sustainability a priority, and those initiatives and mindset will filter down to local government and local action.
- Baker asked about whether we could video record all our commission and team meetings and post them on social media.
 - ✓ Glasgow favored the idea of using recorded meetings as minutes, in lieu of written minutes
 - ✓ Zuccardi expressed concern about lack of attendance in actual meetings if commissioners feel like they can get updated by watching recordings at a later time/date. Having commissioners present during the time of the meeting creates engagement and ideas and action. Also, Zuccardi recognized that recorded meetings are only temporary until we are able to meet in person again.
 - ✓ Baker suggested only recording and sharing team meetings in lieu of written minutes, rather than commission meetings.
 - ✓ Zuccardi believes all LRSC meetings should be recorded in writing, and leave up to team chairs' discretion whether they want to record and share video of team meetings.

Zuccardi asked for a motion of voluntary uploading of team meeting minutes in 2021. Turner moved that recording team meetings for review by commissioners or others be an option determined by team chairs, but that written minutes continue for all meetings, going forward. Jester seconded the motion.

- Baker asked about commissioners' ability to become administrators on Sustain Little Rock facebook account.
 - ✓ Zuccardi explained that the commission works with the LRSO on many projects, including information shared on social media platforms. She said that the commission works on a lot of things that aren't necessarily at a mature stage to share with the public. This is why vetting content through the LRSO is important.

Jester made a motion to move the conversation about Sustain Little Rock facebook posts and admin rights to the Education & Community Outreach team. DeRossette seconded the motion. All were in favor.

10. 2020 +5 year plan:

- Zuccardi – the pandemic stopped momentum gained by the commission on this plan
- Baker – where are the sticky notes and organized planning strategies the commission worked on during the January 2020 retreat?
- Jester – all of that information is on a Google Drive that he moderates and has shared with the commission. Jester acknowledges that he needs to bring new commissioners up to speed in regard to those lists
- Zuccardi – asked new commissioners to share with commission in January 2021 meeting any short, medium, or long-term goals they foresee needing to be worked on by commission for the city
- Baker – all commissioners need streamlined information regarding access to Google docs and where to find commission-related information on the city website.
- Turner – asked about whether goals need to be framed in the 5 areas the commission works on within teams, or if the scope can be broader. He asked about Housing and other equity issues – where is that working team?
- Massanelli – reported that Landosky mentioned that there is a separate Housing Commission for the city who deals with issues pertaining to this subject. Also, the commission voted earlier in 2020 to change title of Environment team to Environment, Health & Wellness to encompass other issues the LRSC should include in their sustainability efforts

11. 2020 Commission achievements:

- Energy team – energy audit and presentation for building and fleet energy efficiency
- Green Restaurant Certification Program – Director Peck, Commissioner Zuccardi and LRSC helped with this project
- Single Use Plastic task force – Director Webb, Commissioners Furman and Zuccardi, LRSC, and others worked on this project
- Letter written by commission to the City Board of Directors, in support of keeping glass out of the residential recycling program, while efforts to recycle more glass in other innovative ways is being sought out.
- Transportation team – Zuccardi congratulated DeRossette for chairing this team and bringing new ideas and goals (and outside participation) to the team
- The LRSC radio show!

Energy – Andrew Jester, chair

- Outdoor Lighting ordinance update
 - ✓ Meyer, Baker, and Jester formed an ad hoc committee to work on this ordinance. Right now they are working on getting community support to move ordinance forward

Environment, Health and Wellness – Uta Meyer, chair

- A proposal was sent to commissioners this morning, regarding the Arkansas Natural Yards project. This project gained team support at previous meeting – now the team would like to ask commission to grant its support of this project and the Environment team involvement in its goals

Meyer made a motion requesting LRSC to support the Arkansas Natural Yards project. Jester seconded the motion. Vote on this motion of support will be made via email, after commissioners have had a chance to review the proposal.

- The team has been working with UALR on the Fourche Creek watershed management project. Audubon and other Fourche Creek partners are moving forward with proposal for funding to get a consultant to help with project. Deadline for proposal is in January 2021.
 - ✓ Discussion for clarity on the project between Turner and Meyer

Waste & Reduction – Randy Pierce, chair

- Team is working on script for their radio show series, the last of the 6 shows.

Education & Community Outreach – Niki Evansingston, chair

- Chair not present in commission meeting to report updates.
- Zuccardi reported that the radio show activity is the update for this team.

Transportation – Kay Kay DeRossette, chair

- DeRossette – transportation radio show was recorded this month – a big achievement for this team
- Team meeting has seen new community participation and the hope is that those new participants will stay engaged in the next year 2021
- CLR passed an ordinance on December 1st for electric scooters. The team will be looking at the ordinance to see if there are any recommendations they can bring before the commission.

Zuccardi – voting for Chair and Vice-Chair of LRSC will take place during the January 22nd, 2021 meeting. She encouraged all commissioners to consider running for these positions.

Jester presented a slide show on his team's Energy Study.

Minutes taken by Lennie Massanelli