



Keep Winter Park Beautiful & Sustainable Advisory Board Minutes

October 18th, 2022, at 11:45 a.m.

Commission Chamber
401 S Park Ave, Winter Park

Present

KWPB&S: Stephen Pategas, Catherine (Kay) Hudson, Carey Bond, Ben Ellis, Rishona S Teres

City Staff: Sara Miller; Sustainability Manager, Mia Brady; Sustainability Specialist, Johnny Miller; Event Manager, Victoria Tabor; Admin Coordinator

(1) Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Kay Hudson at 11:46 AM.

(2) Consent Agenda

Stephen Pategas motioned to approve the September Meeting Minutes. Carey Bond Seconded and the motion passed.

(3) Public Comment

None.

(4) Staff Updates

Sara Miller provided information on the OCPS 9th Annual Green Schools Banquet, which is happening October 20th at Camping World Stadium from 1-3 PM. Kay Hudson will be representing the KWPB&S board at the event. The KWPB&S board is excited to be sponsoring their programming. The Sustainability Division has a meeting with Jenny Jaegal, the sustainability coordinator at OCPS, to discuss further collaborations between OCPS and the City of Winter Park.

Sara talked about the Green School Grants application being published. Staff have already been in communication with the schools that have submitted their deliverables for the 2022 grants. The KWPB&S board still needs to figure out what the grant funding will be for each school. Staff is actively looking for sponsorships right now with local businesses to fund the grants. The application is open until December 30th, 2022. Mia Brady clarified that award amounts used to be between the amounts of \$200-\$500 but this year the board may give less grants for more money. The application has been updated for 2023 and staff removed the requirement for teachers to take the USGBC course. Instead, grant recipients will have to submit a video to the board showcasing their project.

Sara gave an update on Quanta, who is doing the 80% renewable energy feasibility study. Staff met with Quanta two weeks ago to discuss their goals and plan for the study. The next meeting will go over the city's carbon emissions, past information and data conducted, EV car charging stations, what EV car charging stations look like. The study should be done by February 2023.

Sara also provides updates about the Energy Efficiency Study, which is on the same timeline as Quanta. 15 Lightyears will be running this project and they will conduct studies on all City buildings. In the past, as only a few were audited. The study will help with not only energy efficiency, but also decreasing energy bills.

Sara gave updates about the Sustainability Action Plan, which will be brought in front of the City Commission on October 27th from 1-3PM in the City Chambers. KWPB&S board members are encouraged to attend and show their support. Gloria Eby and Sara Miller met twice on October 18th, 2022 to finalize all edits for the SAP. They have also met with Commissioner Weaver and Mary Dipboye from the Utilities Advisory Board who provided edits and suggestions. There will be a zoom link and agenda sent to the board members to access the SAP draft. There will be a presentation with the indicators in each section and the updated changes. Sara is confident that the SAP will be adopted, as one of the only reasons that wasn't adopted from the Commission last year was the 100% renewable goal. There have been new goals and indicators added since the last Sustainability Manager's copy was put in front of Commission. Cary Bond asked if it would be more cost effective to get a new software program to update the SAP data each year. Sara said yes but hasn't looked into programs yet. There would be benefits to having a software program such as having access to customer support and being able to train future employees easier. Kay Hudson asked about available platforms and Sara responded that some do more than what staff need for the city's SAP. There are also indicators that were created by previous staff members, and therefore there is not software that is programmed to evaluate the data. Sara wants a program that reports the Greenhouse Gas Emissions and she likes the program that OCPS uses, called Energy Cap.

Sara introduced the Center Street project and Green Business Update. Combating the problem started in 2018 by Vanessa Balta. Center Street is located behind Park Avenue, where all the businesses have their shared roll offs for garbage, grease traps, and cardboard recycling. The street is mismanaged as trash is not being disposed of properly and recycling is being contaminated. In 2018, Vanessa received funding from the Beyond34 initiative, to have MSW perform a waste audit. The businesses were found to be struggling with recycling and contamination due to the high turnover of employees at the restaurants. Sustainability has met with the Assistant City Manager and have been in communication with O-Town Compost to discuss starting a composting program for Center Street. This would hopefully help with the smell. Staff also met with the Underground Refuse company to discuss the possibility of installing underground waste vaults. These are popular in Europe and installed in two cities in Florida. This option would be a very expensive undertaking. Sara and Mia plan to work with the businesses that use Center Street for better education. They will start being fined for improper disposal of their waste. Stephen Pategas recommended painting signage on the ground around the dumpsters so that they will be easier for people to understand. Kay Hudson also brought up the recycling issue of number 5 plastics. A recycling company is trying to work with Waste Pro to get all the number 5s, Sara Miller has the idea to talk to Waste Pro and see if they can supply Center Street with specific bins for recycling number 5 materials. Sustainability is struggling to get consistent communication with the businesses backing Center Street. In the future there might need to be support coming from Chamber of Commerce and various other departments to help the businesses on Park Avenue. Stephen also asked if there was a way to encourage businesses to be more engaged with the City when it comes to recycling. Sara Miller responded that the Chamber of Commerce is having a 100-year anniversary at Mead Gardens with art made from recycled material, in order to attend the event, you must have a piece of artwork made from recycled material. Stephen wants to see the Chamber working with the Board on more impactful projects, such as Center Street Project. He also suggests awarding the businesses for their recycling efforts once the Center Street Project is developed. Sara is exploring an idea of potentially giving these businesses a rebate for their sustainability efforts and developing an SAP of their own. Sara asked if any members of the board have contacts with the Chamber of Commerce or people that own businesses on Park Avenue, as they could help staff form relationships. Eventually, staff would like to have these businesses meet quarterly to collaborate and communicate their sustainability efforts.

Staff members and interns will be at Mead Garden's Backyard Biodiversity event on Saturday October 22nd, 2022. Kay Hudson encouraged everyone on the board if they can, to volunteer their time to come and educate at the tables.

(5) Non-Action Items

No Non-Action Items.

(6) Action Items

No Action Items.

(7) Public Hearings

No Public Hearings.

(8) Board Comments and Green Minute

Carey Bond elaborates on her experience with the underground refuse system during her time in Portugal. She saw the vaults throughout the streets and neighborhoods.

Johnny Miller brought up that the next big engagement event, which will be on December 17th. The Natural Resources and Sustainability Department will be “piggybacking” off of the City’s Tuba Christmas event. They are planning on adding a sustainability aspect to the event, reminding people to use LED lighting for Christmas, educating residents about how to dispose of Christmas trees, and suggesting sustainable wrapping options.

Stephen Pategas mentioned that everyone would be receiving an email with a separate attachment for the America in Bloom process. He expressed concern about staffing issues and running out of time to get everything organized. Sara Miller and Mia Brady have a strategic planning meeting coming up for 2023 and they will discuss the possibility of doing the program in 2023.

(9) Adjournment

Kay Hudson made a motion to adjourn and Carey Bond seconded. Meeting adjourned at 12:59 PM

Minutes approved the board on mm/dd/yyyy.
/s/ Recording Secretary Victoria Tabor