

Meeting Highlights for Commission:

1. SAB currently has one vacancy waiting to be filled. At the July meeting, Maria Cuevas attended and expressed interest in joining SAB.
2. SAB members are compiling feedback on the draft Comprehensive Plan to participate in the public comment process on this topic.
3. SAB members are interested in collaborating with staff on key topics:
 - A storm buffer ordinance with the stormwater division.
 - Reduction of unrecyclable “to go” containers in food retail (part of the Douglas County Food System Plan).

Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB) Minutes

September 13, 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dale Nimz, Jackie Carroll, Sharon Ashworth, Adam Ritchie, Travis Robinett, Ma’KoQuah Jones, Rachel Krause, Michael Steinle

MEMBERS ABSENT: Karen Lewis

STAFF PRESENT: Eileen Horn, Kathy Richardson, Matt Bond, Helen Schnoes

PUBLIC PRESENT: Thad Holcombe, Penny Von Achen, Joyce Wolfe

- I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER: Determine quorum of members.

Adam called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

- II. APPROVE JULY MEETING MINUTES. Michael made motion, Dale seconded. Passed unanimously.

- III. Discussion of potential stream buffer ordinance for the City of Lawrence:
 - a. Report from Matt Bond, Stormwater Engineer.

Matt reported that he has completed the stream ordering for all city waterways, an important first step in structuring a stream buffer ordinance. Matt also gave SAB members a GIS tour of some best practices in stormwater that the city has done recently.

- b. Discussion of model ordinances and best practices in peer cities.

SAB members each reported out on the various model ordinances they reviewed in preparation of the meeting. Common themes between the ordinances: stream ordering, slope, and watershed area all can factor into determining the required buffer. There was some discussion of a preference for a simple, easy to

understand ordinance, as some of them were quite lengthy. SAB members discussed the importance of a waiver/exemption policy that is also very clear.

- c. Next steps and timeline: How can SAB assist further in this process?

Matt hopes to have a draft ordinance for SAB and the public to review in January/February 2018.

IV. SAB administrative items:

- a. New member to fill vacancy left by Steve Evans.

Pending new advisory board policy to be reviewed/adopted by the City Commission.

- b. Discussion of Sustainability Director position next steps.

Effective December 29, 2017, Eileen will be resigning as Sustainability Director. The job application is now open til October 16th. The new Director position will continue to report 50/50 to City and County, and will continue to staff the Sustainability Advisory Board.

V. Reports from committees:

- a. Land Use Committee:

The committee will take the lead on reviewing the new draft Comprehensive Plan and structuring some SAB conversation and comments to submit after the October 11th meeting.

- b. Water Conservation Committee:

Sharon created some FAQs to share with the Utilities department per their request. These FAQs are about the new proposed rate structure. Sharon will follow up with Utilities to build this relationship.

- c. Energy Conservation Committee:

This Committee was interested in following up with Commissioners to discuss their concerns about the cost of LEED certification following the Commission discussion on the green building white paper, and SAB's submittal of comments.

VI. Potential new project: SAB written comments on the new Comprehensive Plan.

- A copy of the draft comprehensive plan is available for review at <https://lawrenceks.org/pds/comp-plan/>.
- All comments received by October 23rd will be provided to the master plan steering committee for review.

VII. Staff Report: City/County Sustainability Director, Eileen Horn

VIII. Action Items. What are the key takeaways to share with the Commission? What are key topics for next month's agenda?

IX. Future Agenda Items

SAB will discuss the comprehensive plan and make recommendations/comments.

X. Member Updates

XI. Public Comment:

Penny Von Achen introduced a new citizen group concerned about water issues in DG County. This group includes representatives from Sierra Club, Audubon Society, Friends of the Kaw, Kansas Rural Center, League of Women Voters, and church green teams). They are focused on local and regional water issues education.

XII. Adjourn

Next regular SAB meeting:

October 11, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

Venue: Public Works Conference Room, City Hall