

**City of Lawrence  
Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB)  
December 10, 2014**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dale Nimz, Scott White, Michael Morley, Kathleen Nuckolls, Ian Spomer, Adam Ritchie, Daniel Poull

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sandy Beverly, Boog Highberger

STAFF PRESENT: Eileen Horn, Tammy Bennett, Tresa Carter, Sustainability Intern, Jessica Mortinger, MPO

PUBLIC PRESENT: Cathy Joritz

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**Call Meeting to Order (Scott White, Chair)**

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

**Motion and second** to approve the October 8-, 2014 meeting minutes. (Morley, Ritchie). Approved unanimously.

**ITEM #3 – Follow-Up Item: Review of GHG emissions inventory results presentation on December 2nd. Eileen Horn and Scott White to lead discussion**

City Commission approved revised priorities of GHG Emissions Inventory Report and signed the Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, which has new language on climate change adaptation. No further action needed.

**ITEM #4 – New item: Presentation from Jessica Mortinger, MPO. Jessica will provide an update on transportation plans that address recommendations in GHG Emissions Inventory Update Report.**

Jessica shared the findings and recommendations in all three documents (Countywide Bikeway System Plan, Commuter Park & Ride Study, and Fixed Route Transit and Pedestrian Accessibility Study) which were well received by the committee. These documents consider the Five E's of recommendation (encouragement, education, enforcement, evaluation and engineering). All three plans were accepted by City and County Commission, but there is no budget for the recommended infrastructure. When funding allows, these suggested projects can be built into new/existing construction. There is a general "mode shift" in planning transitioning from automobiles to other options, including more equitable access to transportation choices.

There is potential for 2016 budget to include money for bicycle-pedestrian improvements. Lawrence is currently a Bronze level bicycle friendly community. MPO will reapply for this certification.

SAB will stay apprised of the evolving conversation on bicycle-pedestrian improvements in Lawrence. No further action necessary at this time.

**ITEM #5 – New Item: Brief discussion of PACE legislation opportunities in Kansas. Tresa Carter to lead discussion.**

PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) is a financing opportunity for energy efficiency measures in residential and commercial properties. The loan is linked to the property tax, and thus connected to the property, not the property owner. PACE uses a low-interest repayment structure from the City government, making energy retrofits less cost-prohibitive. KS does not have PACE enabling legislation, but this program may be possible under Home Rule or the Community Improvement District Act.

SAB would have to advocate to City Commission for importance of program by writing a letter such that they could allocate legal time to research and develop.

Action: Ask Boog to provide an update on his work with PACE at the state level.

**ITEM #6 – Follow-Up Item: Brief report on citywide Sustainable Procurement Policy and LEED building policies. Eileen Horn to lead discussion.**

Eileen shared about the City & County pilot sustainable procurement project. Three departments (Parks & Rec., City Manager's Office, Solid Waste) are participating in the pilot study to identify key impact areas. These three departments are tackling: janitorial supplies, paper products, clothing, food, and electronics/lighting. There can be up to a 5% cost increase on sustainable products to lessen the budget impact.

**ITEM #7 – New Item: Discussion of SAB position turnover and leadership. Scott White's term will end December 31, 2014. Scott White to lead discussion.**

Scott White will ask to be reappointed. Dale Nimz offered to serve as Chair. Sandy B. is resigning, Boog's status is unknown. A review of the attendance requirements states that 3 unexcused absences are cause for dismissal from the Board.

Action: Add this discussion to January meeting agenda to discuss replacements for Sandy and Boog, and to elect a new Vice Chair to serve with Dale.

**ITEM #8 – New Item: Request for support from Erin Paden with Lawrence Bicycle Advisory Committee.**

Erin Paden wrote a letter to SAB requesting support for the upcoming Bike-Pedestrian Town Hall event. Michael Morley volunteered to serve on the steering committee as the SAB liaison. The target date for this event is March 2015. Michael moved to endorse the event. Daniel seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

**ITEM #9 – Staff Report: County / City Sustainability Coordinator, Eileen Horn.**

Eileen shared that the solar panels are now up at Prairie Park Nature Center. She also shared an update on the Food Systems Coordinator position, made possible by funding from the CDC grant. This will free up time for Eileen to focus on other sustainability projects, like the Star Community Sustainability Index, a rating program for city sustainability efforts.

**ITEM #10 – Member Updates:**

Dale Nimz mentioned the Climate Change Network Discussion Meeting on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. Scott and or Dale will forward to full SAB after the meeting.

**ITEM #11 – Public Comment:**

Cathy Joritz provided a status update on the Wind Farm in Douglas County. There have been concerns related to wind energy from an “infra-sound” issue whose significant correlation to human health is still unknown. Small, flying animals and insects have reported hearing issues as a result of the wind turbines. This is out of SAB’s purview as the wind towers are on County property, not within City of Lawrence boundaries. SAB recommended Cathy engage the County Commission and staff with her concerns.

**ITEM #12 – Future Agenda Items.**

A discussion on next steps for leadership and SAB membership.

**Next regular SAB meeting:** January 14, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. Venue: City Hall Public Works Conference Room (ground floor)

**Adjourn**