

Meeting Highlights

- 1. SAB will assist the Sustainability Director to review STAR sustainability score at their November meeting.**
- 2. SAB is interested in supporting a green building policy for publicly-owned buildings.**

Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB) Minutes October 12, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dale Nimz, Jackie Carroll, Sharon Ashworth, Rachel Krause, Adam Ritchie, Steve Evans, Scott White, Karen Lewis, Travis Robinett

MEMBERS ABSENT: Michael Steinle

STAFF PRESENT: Eileen Horn

PUBLIC PRESENT: Brett Holm, Chris Tilden, Julian Silverman

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER: Determine quorum of members. Pressing Items?

Meeting was called to order at 5:33 pm.

II. APPROVE SEPTEMBER MEETING MINUTES.

Minutes for September - moved by Sharon Ashworth, 2nd by Adam Ritchie. Approved.

III. Discussion of STAR Communities score, next steps, role of SAB in implementation (Eileen to lead).

Eileen presented results for the STAR Community rating. The City of Lawrence aimed for 4 Stars (400 points) but fell short at 395 in the initial submittal. This is being resubmitted as some points were lost due to minor issues. It's fully expected the City will end up with well over 400 points. Portland, OR and Austin, TX are examples of 4 STAR communities.

City is committed to incorporating STAR language into city documents such as the rewrite of Horizon 2020 and the City Commission's strategic planning process.

Discussion on listing SAB as responsible parties for STAR implementation of the recommended next steps. SAB members discussed the two categories in which Lawrence scored very low - Climate Change Adaptation and Environmental Justice. The entire Natural Systems is another area of weakness.

Eileen is planning to give presentations on STAR to city groups. She'd like help generating a list of groups that may be interested in learning about this.

IV. Report re: Sustainable Communities Conference (Dale to lead).

Dale reported out on his attendance at the Sustainable Communities Conference in Dubuque IA last month. Dale found the conference to be very interesting and encourages other SAB members to attend in the future. Videos and presentations will be available on web-site soon, and Dale will share the links with SAB members.

V. Report-out from SAB committees on progress towards annual work plan:

a. Energy conservation committee –

The committee met this week to discuss energy management policies within the city. Discussions have been held at city and county on use of personal space heaters and mini-fridges, etc., due to high energy use of these. This was triggered by a citizen complaint. Discussion was held on green building policy, pertaining to publicly owned buildings, new construction, large remodels, small remodels and incorporation of LEED, GreenGlobes, EnergyStar, etc.

Question, are we comfortable with EnergyStar being the low-tier certification for energy use or push for more stringent requirements. Rachel suggests we may not be aiming high enough. Why not aim for LEED Gold for all new construction.

Steve Evans says a contact of his who has expertise in the field does not think highly of GreenGlobes and thinks LEED Gold standard should be a goal.

Adam – EnergyStar has value for appliances and small changes, but thinks LEED Gold should be standard, with some exceptions (type of use of building, pump stations?, may preclude value of going with LEED rating).

Some policies clarify between certifiable and actually certified, committee does think getting certified should be the goal, except maybe if the cost of certification exceeds some predetermined percentage of total cost.

b. Water conservation committee

Sharon still having trouble reaching city staff on the rate issue. She's interested in green infrastructure. Plans to find green infrastructure policies from other municipalities.

c. Land use planning committee

Dale notes the conference was main activity this month.

VI. Staff Report: City/County Sustainability Director, Eileen Horn (see below)

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

- a. Receive and discuss full STAR report.
- b. Discuss equity issues at December or later meeting.

VIII. Future Agenda Items

IX. Member Updates.

Jackie asks whether SAB wants to make a statement relating to BLM and DAPL. Eileen notes we are advisory and couldn't issue public statement without City Commission approval. Suggested further by Dale that individuals on SAB could reach out to these groups about equity/social justice issues that would be relevant to City.

Karen Lewis said Homes to Watershed series is coming up with a tour of the water treatment facilities. Also, it's KU's Hunger Awareness Month.

X. Public Comment.
None.

XI. Adjourn - Adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Next regular SAB meeting:

November 9, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.

Venue: Public Works Conference Room, City Hall

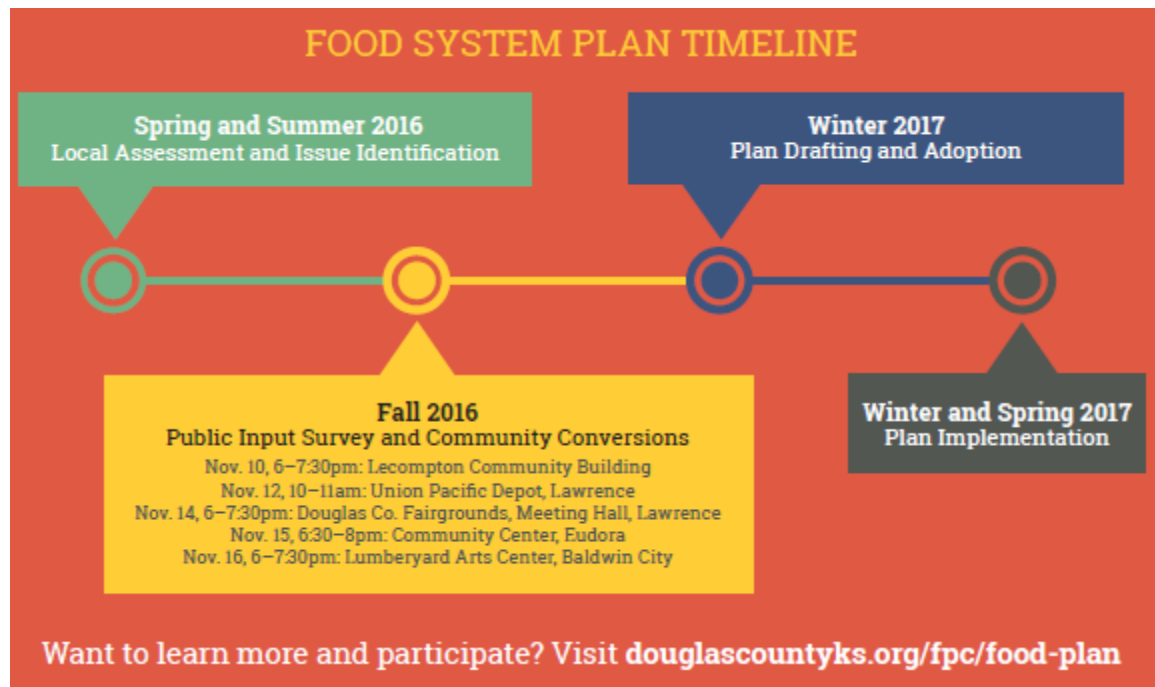
**Sustainability Coordinator Report to the SAB:
October 12, 2016**

✓ **City/County Food Policy Council Projects:**

- SNAP Matching Program: We are starting our expansion of DUFEB into the rural grocery setting.
- The Delaware Tribe Planning Project: Douglas County and the Delaware Tribe of Indians received a grant to collaborate on an agricultural heritage planning

project on their property north of Lawrence. The kick off project meeting is scheduled for October 12th.

- Common Ground: The Food Policy Council will be assisting with a revision of the Common Ground application process to improve accessibility. SAB members are welcome to participate.
- The Douglas County Food System Plan: Helen Schnoes, County Food Systems Coordinator, has created a survey and is hosting community meetings to receive public input on the plan:
Survey Link: https://www.peakdemocracy.com/portals/217/forum_home



✓ **Energy Efficiency:**

- At their September 6th City Commission meeting, they approved the draft Investment Grade Audit, recommending approximately \$12 million in energy efficiency improvements to city buildings.
- Next, the engineers will design and bid the projects through fall of 2016 and present a final IGA and contract in January 2017.
- The City and County are being featured as an ICMA case study for our accomplishments in energy efficiency.

✓ **STAR:**

- We submitted for STAR certification and received our score = 395, just 5 points shy of 400 (4 STAR category). We will resubmit October 21 to scoop up a few more points.
- Two key products will result:
 - An internal staff department document with short-term goals.
 - An integration into Horizon 2020 alongside the Issue Action Report.
 - How does SAB want to participate in implementation of STAR recs?

✓ **Miscellaneous:**

- The County completed a Fairgrounds landscape master plan that includes native plantings, an arboretum, and a teaching vegetable garden.
- The Parks and Recreation Master Plan was presented to the City Commission at their September 13th meeting. It is being revised and will be presented again soon.
- The Bike Share Feasibility study in conjunction with KU has launched. Go to <http://lawrenceks.org/mpo/bikeshare> to share your opinions about station locations. We especially need help spreading the word to students.
- At their September 6th meeting, the City Commission approved a comprehensive parking assessment and planning process. Sustainability and equity were key stated values in the RFP.
- Eileen joined an effort by the Climate and Energy Project to begin to engage NE Kansas communities in discussions of air quality related to emissions from energy production. Includes 9 counties in NE Kansas.

• **Upcoming Solid Waste Division Events**

- Electronic Recycling Event - October 15th: The City's Solid Waste Division will host an Electronic Recycling Event at the KU Park & Ride east parking lot (Clinton Parkway and Crestline Drive) on Saturday, October 15th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Items accepted for recycling include televisions, video and audio equipment, computers, printers, scanners, fax machines, microwaves and other small appliances, cell phones and other hand held devices. There is a \$10 recycling fee per CRT computer monitors, a \$20 recycling fee per CRT television 26 inches and under, a \$40 recycling fee per CRT television 27 inches and over, and a \$50 recycling fee per big screen/projection/console television.
- Paper Shred Event - November 15th: On America Recycles Day observed on Tuesday, November 15th, the City's Solid Waste Division will host a Paper Shred Event. Lawrence will be joining thousands of local organizers holding recycling events across the country to celebrate America Recycles Day (ARD), a national initiative of Keep America Beautiful. The Paper Shred Event will be held from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Douglas County Fairgrounds Arena Parking Lot located at 1930 Harper Street, Lawrence. Secure document shredding will be provided by Stacks Secure Records. There is no fee for document shredding (maximum of 2 bags/boxes per attendee).