

## Meeting Highlights

- 1. SAB received a presentation by Jeff Crick, Long Range Planner, on future growth and land use related to Horizon 2020.**
- 2. SAB reviewed their key goals and discussed priorities moving forward.**

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### Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB) Minutes September 14, 2016

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Kathy Richardson, Helen Schnoes

PUBLIC PRESENT: Emily Reno, Brett Holm, Anna Marie Romero, Kathy Dwigans, Travis Robinett

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- I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER: Determine quorum of members. 5:32 PM. A quorum of members was present.*
- I. APPROVE MAY MEETING MINUTES. Minutes for June, July, and August approved. Motion made by Michael Steinle, Second by Jackie Carroll. Approved.*
- II. Presentation by Jeff Crick, Long Range Planner with Lawrence Douglas County Planning Department on future growth and land use related to Horizon 2020 update process.
  - a. Presented growth models out to 2040 and assumptions that went into it.
  - b. Currently we have around 111,000 residents, and a growth rate of 0.8%. Moving forward, they assume we'll have a 1% growth rate. Most growth will move west and east according to model.
  - c. We currently have 373.5 undeveloped acres available for multi-dwelling.
  - d. We're above average in the Midwest for vacancy rates (lower vacancy rates by 0.5%).
  - e. The model, with various parameters and limiting factors, estimates that the city can easily grow by 8.53 square miles and grow to 124,000 by 2041.
- III. Discussion of new member for vacant SAB position. (Dale to lead)  
*Motion to make a recommendation to Mayor to appoint Travis Robinett. Moved by Michael, Second by Sharon. Approved.*
- IV. Discussion of "big picture" role of SAB. (Steve, Dale to lead)  
  
Discussed history of SAB, past goal setting and agreed to share important documents with newer board members. Dale followed up via email 9/16/16.

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

- a. Energy conservation committee – Has next meeting set, hopes to have a full report and discussion for next meeting.
- b. Water conservation committee - Sharon provided updates on discussions of a stream buffer ordinance with City staff.
- c. Land use planning committee – Expects to have action items in coming months.

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

See below.

- Helen Schnoes provided update of upcoming Food Policy Food Tour, Friday Sept. 30 from 8:00-11:30 am.
- Slow Money event at Abe and Jakes on September 22, 6:30 pm.

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

VIII. Future Agenda Items

IX. Member Updates.

- a. Dale is going to Growing Sustainable Communities Conference in Dubuque, Iowa
- b. Sharon going for state water training through K-State.
- c. Karen going through interagency meeting in Osage County
- d. Scott noted Jackson County, MO is kicking off the ability to do PACE funding starting tomorrow.

X. Public Comment.

- a. Emily Reno, noted she's going to Italy for Slow Food conference and is willing to discuss her findings with SAB upon return.

XI. Adjourn

*7:28 pm – Adam moved to adjourn, Sharon 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved.*

**Next regular SAB meeting:**

October 12, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.

Venue: Public Works Conference Room, City Hall

## **Sustainability Coordinator Report to the SAB: September 14, 2016**

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

- SNAP Matching Program: Rachel Myslivy has started as the Double Up Food Bucks Coordinator, and will oversee expansion to 11 farmers markets.
- 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. We have signed a contract with Shafer, Kline and Warren to create the master plan.
- Farm Tour: The Douglas County FPC farm tour is scheduled for Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Common Ground: The Food Policy Council will be assisting with a revision of the Common Ground application process to improve accessibility.

### ✓ **Energy Efficiency:**

- At their September 6<sup>th</sup> 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 on July 29<sup>th</sup>, and will receive a review within 30-60 days. At that point, we can resubmit if we dispute any points. We submitted with 527 points, putting us safely in 4 STAR territory (we hope!).
- Two key products will result:
  - An internal staff department document with short-term goals.
  - An integration into Horizon 2020 alongside the Issue Action Report.

### ✓ **Miscellaneous:**

- The County is completing 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 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- 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 6<sup>th</sup> meeting, the City Commission approved a comprehensive parking assessment and planning process. Sustainability and equity were key stated values in the RFP.