



City of Lawrence

SUSTAINABILITY
ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES

September 12, 2018 – 5:30 pm

MEETING LOCATION: Parks and Recreation Administration Building in South Park, 1141 Massachusetts St, Lawrence, KS 66044

Members present: Sharon Ashworth, Rachel Krause, Jessica Lee, Dale Nimz, Adam Ritchie, Michael Steinle

Members Absent: Jackie Carroll, Ma'Ko'Quah Abigail Jones, Karen Lewis, Travis Robinett

Staff Present: Jasmin Moore

Public: some members of the public present

Call to order: 5:33 p.m.

- I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER: Determine quorum of members.
- II. Introductions
- III. Approve August meeting minutes. Approved with spelling corrections. Motion by Steinle, second by Nimz. Motion passed.
- IV. SAB administrative items
 - a. Introduction of Jessica Lee. Lee was appointed to fill an unfilled seat that expires 12/31/18. Lee is eligible for reappointment at that time if interested.
 - b. City staff changes and SAB. The City of Lawrence recently merged the Utilities and Public Works Departments, forming a new Municipal Services Operations (MSO) Department. In the past, staff from Public Works have served as consistent staff support for SAB. Moving forward, the Sustainability Office will continue to serve as the staff liaison. Staff from other departments, including MSO, will continue to serve as resources to SAB, but will not be in attendance at every SAB meeting.
- V. Discussion: Landfill Tour reflections
 - a. Several members of the Food Policy Council food waste reduction working group attended a tour of the Material Recovery Facility on September 10.
 - b. Reflections included Discussed plastics markets and the challenge with China
 - c. Several types of plastics are harder to find markets. The US will need to rethink recycling and cannot expect to ship things out of the country.
 - d. Charlie Sedlock, Vice President, Hamm Waste Services offered to come to the October SAB meeting to present on the methane capture system at the landfill.
- VI. Report from Water Committee- 90/90 tool

- a. Report from Sharon Ashworth. The committee is focused on green stormwater infrastructure and hopes to identify a pilot project in the Capital Improvements Plan. It may be beneficial to convene staff from Shawnee County, Johnson County, and KU in Lawrence to consider the possibilities of green infrastructure. KU has a green infrastructure demonstration project.
- b. Reactions to using the 90/90 tool: it was valuable to think about what is possible in 90 days. Challenging because there are so many unknown pieces.
- c. Jessica Lee will join the Water Committee

VII. Update on Single Use Plastic Committee

- a. SAB members of the subcommittee will meet before the next SAB meeting to determine a research and engagement.
- b. SAB will work with a masters level fall course at KU to conduct research and policy analysis.
- c. Kroger national grocer chain (operator of Dillions) will phase out plastic bags by 2025. <https://www.wsj.com/articles/kroger-to-ditch-plastic-bags-by-2025-1535020200>
- d. Steinle would like to reconnect with the Retail Grocers Association, who attended the August SAB meeting, to see if the Kroger announcement has changed the discussion in the industry.

VIII. Staff Report

- a. The stream buffer text amendment, presented to SAB in August, [was approved on Aug 21](#) by the City Commission. This directs staff to develop an ordinance that will outline a process to permit and review development in relation to stream corridor protection.
- b. City of Lawrence Common Ground Program is celebrating 7 years of community creativity, connections, and healthy, local food production! SAB members are invited to attend a tour of one or more Common Ground sites on Friday, October 5, at John Taylor Park.
- c. The Lawrence Downtown Master Plan process will begin in October with the establishment of a Downtown Master Plan Steering Committee.
- d. The Metropolitan Planning Organization need volunteers to do bicyclists and pedestrian counts on Saturday, September 15 from Noon – 2 pm. <https://lawrenceks.org/mpo/volunteer>
- e. The Greenhouse Gas inventory data almost complete, and entering the quality assurance phase with data partners.
- f. The Comprehensive Plan is still in development. There is an opportunity to review and provide comment. Land Use committee will review the plan and bring comments to SAB.

IX. Future Agenda Items

- a. Report out on the comprehensive plan by Land Use committee
- b. Presentation by Hamm on methane capture
- c. Collaboration opportunities with Transportation Commission

- d. Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory update
 - e. 2019 SAB leadership
 - f. SAB bylaws review
 - g. 90/90 report update from Land Use and Energy committee
- X. Public Comment: Terry Wilke, member of LETUS concerned about the comprehensive plan and lack of environmental focus. There are many communities that have taken action on the issue of single-use plastics.
- XI. Action Items. What are the key takeaways to share with the Commission? What are key topics for next month's agenda? Nothing at this time.
- XII. Member Updates
- a. Michael, had unexpected work commitments that will impact scheduling in the next few months.
 - b. Staff will contact the LJW date book to correct the SAB meeting location listed.
- XIII. Adjourn 6:30 p.m.

Next regular SAB meeting:

October 10, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

Venue: Parks and Recreation Administration Building in South Park, 1141
Massachusetts St, Lawrence, KS 66044