

**Sustainability Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes**

MEETING DATE	May 17, 2021
PLACE	Zoom Meeting
MEETING CALLED TO ORDER	4:01 p.m.
MEETING ADJOURNED	5:05 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>PRESENT</u></b>	<b><u>ABSENT</u></b>
Jamie Hasemeier	x	
Christine Luebbert	x	
Michael Stauss	x	
Padraic McGrath	x	
Elizabeth Schappe	x	
Jeffrey Tomich	x	
Paul Barrs	x	
John Berendzen	x	

Also Present: Laura Arnold, City Council Liaison, Todd Rehg, Public Works Director, Derek Jackson, Deputy City Manager, Collinsville IL (part time)

1. Meeting was called to order at 4:01 p.m.
2. Minutes from last meeting were reviewed. Padraic motioned to approve; Jeff seconded. Approved unanimously.
3. New Commission Member Paul Barrs was introduced. Paul is an attorney with Legal Services of Eastern Missouri, and an avid cyclist and pedestrian. Welcome Paul!
4. There were no Visitor Comments to address.

**Old Business.**

5. Green Cities Challenge was discussed. Todd, Michael and Jamie have been looking at our options for what the city might address this session. The Challenge comes with a menu of options, and the subcommittee is working to see which fit best with the city's needs. Work is ongoing. Jaime asked for additional help from the committee (Paul offered to assist). Jamie will report back next meeting.
6. Plan Commission Update: no one from our commission attended their last meeting. Laura noted in May, the Plan Commission will start discussions of multi family housing in all areas zoned commercial. Douglas Hill/SG Collaborative project will be discussed in June. Expectations are it will take minimum three months to progress through the Plan Commission. Jamie asked the members of our commission to look at Plan Commission meetings and please attend. Many sustainability issues surround plan commission work.
7. The Sustainability Commission discussed forming a subcommittee to understand sustainability issues surrounding the Douglas Hill Development/SG Collaborative project.

8. Laura noted some updates to previous Sustainability Commission issues. The City Manager will discuss the Walkable/Bikeable concerns the Commission noted previously with the City Council in a work session. The City Council received our letter to join mayors for clean energy. Laura will report back on this issue. The A4 zoning modifications – duplex development issue may have a petition for repeal placed on an upcoming ballot. The Sustainability Commission had previously expressed our support of this issue to the Plan Commission. The City Council also approved the use of goats for land clearance.
9. The upcoming Fourth of July Parade was discussed. In 2019 the Sustainability Commission marched with a group from the Green Space Alliance. We may march again in the 2021 Parade: to be determined.

### **New Business**

10. Derek Jackson AICP, Deputy City Manager, City of Collinsville presented a Powerpoint of Collinsville's Sustainability Plan. Since nov 2017. Derek is a Land use planner and sustainability advocate. Collinsville borrowed ideas for their plan from Granite City. The plan addresses five categories:
  - Transportation
  - Buildings, Ground and Lighting
  - Land Use Planning
  - Environmental Management
  - Community Development, Engagement and Education
11. The document can be found online at <https://www.collinsvilleil.org/departments/community-development/planning-and-zoning-division/sustainability-plan-2020>
12. Derek noted that the document leverages infographics, icons and images to get their points across. This is an effort to make it user friendly for everyone.
13. Derek noted that the strategy document draws on input from their own Sustainability Commission, past members and the general public. They began thinking about the document in 2019, first with a campaign to bring awareness of the need for this document to the public. They then used an online survey and meetings with other boards and commissions to gather input.
14. After completion of the document, they took it to City Council to be adopted and link the strategy to the city's annual budget.
15. One initiative was to create a reuseable bag program branded with the City Logo and distributed at the local farmer's market (similar to our proposed program).
16. Derek noted Willoughby Farm in Collinsville as an important educational venue for sustainability issues.
17. Derek noted that he and the city's communications coordinator put together the graphics and website info. They had no grant funding to start the effort, just staff time and work from

Sustainability Commission members. They did have a budget for the reusable bag initiative. They found a company in Illinois that manufactured the bags, and they were then given away at the farmer's market as an awareness building tool.

18. Our Commission noted that Collinsville's work can be a model for our own efforts. Our next steps will be for Laura to bring the idea of a similar document to the City Council, referencing the Collinsville precedent.
19. Laura noted the City now has a Director of Community Engagement and Public Affairs, who may be able to assist with our own document.
20. Next meeting: June 28<sup>th</sup> 4:00 p.m.
21. Motion to adjourn by Padraic: Christine seconded. Adjourned at 5:05

End of minutes.