

Sustainability Committee
City of Roeland Park, KS
Minutes
Thursday, March 6, 2025, 6:15 pm
In Person Meeting – City Hall

The purpose of the Sustainability Committee is to make recommendations to the Governing Body concerning issues relating to or affecting environmental sustainability.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/99339586327>
Meeting ID: 993 3958 6327

Committee:

David Smith – Co-Chair; Megan Reavis – Co-Chair; Melissa Castillo, Aiden Ellis, Grace Suh, Ginny Varraveto, Natasha Rickel, John Puricelli, Jan Faidley - City Council liaison, Jeffrey Stocks – City Counsel liaison

Members in attendance: David Smith, John Puricelli, Ginny Varraveto, Grace Suh, Megan Reavis

Liaison(s) in attendance: Jan Faidley, Khal Miller, Joey Carley, Jeffrey Stocks

Guest(s) in attendance: Jaime Davis, Janna Wilhaus, Nancy Short, Harold Morales

Call to Order: 6:19

Approval of minutes: 6:19

Citizen Comment(s):

Additions to the Agenda:

Climate Action KC Summit April 5, a few SustComm members interested in attending

Sustainability Minute:

Agenda:

- Elections
 - o Status quo remains
 - Megan and David as co-chairs, David remains taking minutes
- Monarch Butterfly Budget Objective update
 - o Submitted by deadline
 - Potentially could get bumped over \$10,000
 - Grace's concern- hard costs for SustComm side (planting, etc), so making sure we have monies set aside for programming/education
 - Also need clarification regarding City property/right-of-way concerns
- Presentation by Parks Committee on Grass Walk project (6:30pm)
 - o ParksComm wants to partner more with other committees in 2025

- Partnered on wildflower meadow in R Park
- Idea is to re-plant a few areas in which the plants didn't take, remove some landscape fabric
- Barberry plants harbor ticks and will be removed
- Dig out turf area and plant a native "grass walk" to attract birds and bugs
 - Hopefully will be very low-maintenance once established, will incorporate 3 of 4 native tallgrass prairie species
 - Interactive signboard with species info
 - Ginny will be SustComm's liaison to Parks
 - Parks wants more contact with SustComm's master gardeners
- Presentation by Janna and Nancy on Mosquito Dunk project (6:45pm)
 - 30,000 bees in Janna's beehive went from thriving to dead within a few days. Sent to Cornell's lab and confirmed killed by pesticide
 - Wanted to share her use of mosquito dunks- the bacteria in the dunk prevents the mosquito eggs laid in the water from turning into adult mosquitos. The "tainted" water is harmless to humans
 - Idea is to educate citizens and incentivize them. We could potentially just decrease the nearby mosquito population and avoid spraying
 - Provide a 4-month supply of dunks to average person (would be \$2.50 per person, plus bucket)
 - Summit Chemical will sell bulk supplies at \$0.76/dunk
 - For \$100 we could supply approximately 65 yards
 - \$200 passed unanimously
 - Janna and Nancy want to just give these out at City/local events in April/May
 - Survey use levels- Joey could map it properly

Adjourn: 7:38

Next Meeting: April 3, 2025