# Sustainability Commission

## April 21, 2015

## 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**City of Franklin – Community Development Room – City Hall**

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| 4:00 p.m.  | **Call to Order/Introductions** | LK Browning |
| 4:05 pm – 4:10 pm | **\*Approval of Meeting Minutes** | LK Browning |
| 4:10 pm – 4:15 pm | **Announcements:**May MeetingJune MeetingState of the City 4/22/2015Franklin Land Use Plan UpdateTerms | Andrew Orr |
| 4:15 pm – 4:35 pm | **Keep Williamson Beautiful/Williamson Recycles**  | Jennifer Gosciniak |
| 4:35 pm – 5:00 pm | **Goals for the year** | All |
| 5:00 pm – 5:15 pm | **Other News/Adjourn** | LK Browning |

\*Item contains an attachment or link

**MISSION STATEMENT:** The Sustainability Commission provides guidance to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen and the Planning Commission and leadership for the entire Franklin Community.

*The City of Franklin has committed itself to developing an ongoing strategy of sustainability for the community. This initiative will be designed to achieve viable, fulfilling, and rewarding lifestyles for our residents and business partners through responsible and innovative stewardship of the environment.*

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE**

**FRANKLIN SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION**

**MARCH 17, 2015**

The Franklin Sustainability Commission held a regular meeting on Tuesday March 17, 2015 at 4:00 p.m., in the Community Development Conference Room.

**Members Present**: Teresa Ashworth-Harris, Mathue Bean, Vice Chair Matt Bryant,

 Mayor Ken Moore, Bob Moreo, Karina Young

**Members Absent:** Chair L.K. Browning, Brian Miller, Miles Mennell, Ken Scalf

**Visitors Present:** Joy Jones and children (2),

**Staff Present**: Andrew Orr, Brenda Woods

**Call to Order/Introductions**

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

**Vice Chair Bryant** presented the October 21, 2014, minutes for consideration.

**Mayor Moore** moved to approve the October 21, 2014, minutes, Mr. Bryant seconded the motion, and the minutes were unanimously approved (5-0).

**Announcements:**

* **Parking Garage Lights**

**Mr. Orr** showed a PowerPoint presentation on the Fourth Avenue Parking Garage LED conversation and stated that the case study on the garage had shown that the citizens liked the change to the LED lights. He discussed the money that had been saved on the electric bill. The average monthly cost before the conversion was about $1,050 and the average monthly cost after the conversion was about $750. The next step is to convert the lights in the Second Avenue garage to LED lights. The City applied for a $20,000 grant, which will cover more than half of the cost of the lights if awarded.

* **1 MW Solar Update**

**Mr. Orr** stated that Energy Source Partners has secured all necessary permits for the construction of the 1 MW array. City and Energy Source Partners are still seeking to understand why the property tax assessment for the 200 kW solar array was so high.

* **PACE Update**

**Mr. Moreo** discussed the House Bill that would be before the House on this day and tomorrow.

**Vice Chair Bryant** stated that it seemed that PACE contradicted the solar property tax, somewhat.

* **Solar Tax**

**Mr. Orr** will keep this item on the agenda for April.

**Mr. Orr** stated that he had received a call regarding roadside litter and that we typically forward these calls to the Streets Department. Sometimes, inmates from the County jail will pick up debris.

**Mayor Moore** discussed trash being thrown out of vehicles, and open bed trucks having flying debris.

**Vice Chair Bryant** asked about adopting a street.

**Mr. Orr** stated that he would check on this.

**Goals for the Year**

Although **Ms. Mennell** was absent at this meeting, she had emailed her goals and stated that she continues to believe that education is the key. The Sustainability Commission needs to find ways to help the community understand the why of energy efficiency and energy use reduction. She thought the tool that Metro Nashville developed for this purpose was spot on. Ms. Nancy Whittemore, who is head of Metro General Services and lives in Franklin, could come to our meeting to speak regarding energy efficiency and use.

**Mr. Orr** will contact Ms. Whittemore to see if she can come to the April Sustainability meeting.

**Mr. Moreo** discussed the Green Partner Business Program. He has a list of businesses that have participated. He will also talk with the Chamber of Commerce.

**Mayor Moore** stated that that was a good idea, and it had been well received and suggested reaching out to the downtown merchants. He asked if another survey should be done. He thought it was appropriate to look at the Community Action Plan to see what has been accomplished.

**Ms. Ashworth-Harris** suggested using something like a report card and itemizing things that had been done. She suggested creating a 4-5 slide powerpoint telling the story and include what services are available and how to get involved.

**Vice Chair Bryant** stated that posting it on Facebook would be a way for many people to see.

**Mayor Moore** stated that the Commission needed to be focusing more on certain things that it needed to accomplish.

**Ms. Young** stated that Millennials are up to speed, and any effort outreach in that direction would help. She also recommended continued efforts in making Franklin more walkable and bikable.

**Vice Chair Bryant** stated that blue bag participation had increased. He asked about trash pick- up being once every two weeks instead of every week.

Further discussion ensued regarding goals.

**Other News/Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

**Sustainability Commission 2015 Goals:**

The following goals were taken from the March 2015 meeting:

1. Education: Communicate to the public and to BOMA the importance of sustainability efforts, related achievements, and ways for people to get involved.
2. Walkable/Bikable: Continue to improve walkability and bikability throughout the community.
3. Re-engage the Live Green Partnership. Issue a survey to the partners for a status update and to identify resources they need.
4. Waste Reduction: Continue to promote blue bag recycling and look at cost effective strategies for glass recycling.
* What other goals should be listed?
* What is the order of priority?