

Sustainability Commission



May 5, 2017

8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

City of Franklin –CDCR – City Hall

8:00 am	Welcome/Introductions	Andrew Orr
8:05 am	*Approval of Meeting Minutes	Bob Moreo
8:05 am – 8:10 am	Announcements: Solar Streetlights PACE Legislation HB0464 and SB0794 LEED for Cities Green Business Partnership No meeting in June State of the City May 17 th at Enrichment Center	Andrew Orr
8:10 am – 8:35 am	Sustainability Indicators	Andrew Orr
8:35 am – 8:55 am	Litter Reduction Efforts	Andrew Orr
8:55 am – 9:00 am	Other News/Adjourn	All

*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.

Karina Young (11/10/2018)
Will Dodson (12/13/2019)
Mike Skinner (BOMA co-terminus)
Teresa Gail Ashworth (TVA Volunteer)
Patrick Baggett (Franklin Tomorrow Co-terminus)

Bob Moreo (12/13/2019)
Dana Kose (12/13/2019)
Nancy Whittemore (10/13/2018)
Todd Palmer (8/9/2019)
Micah Wood (11/10/2018)

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**

April 7, 2017

The Franklin Sustainability Commission held a regular meeting on Friday, April 7, 2017 at 8:00 a.m., in the Development Services Conference Room.

Members Present: Chair Bob Moreo , Micah Wood, Alderman Mike Skinner, Karina Young, Todd Palmer, Nancy Whittemore, Teresa Ashworth Harris, Patrick Baggett

Members Absent: Dana Kose, Will Dodson

Visitors: Alderman Beverly Burger, Sargent Stephens, Nancy Zion, Jennifer Gosciniak, Morgan Dent, Sally McCorkle, Tim McCorkle

Staff Present: Andrew Orr, Elaine Ellis, Emily Hunter, Kelly Dannenfesler

Welcome/Introductions

Chair Moreo called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m., and everyone introduced themselves.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Mr. Woods moved, seconded by **Alderman Skinner** to approve the minutes from March 3, 2017. The motion was carried unanimously.

Announcements

Solar Streetlights

Mr. Orr stated that Solar Panel Street Lights were recently installed at the Fleming Center parking lot (Eastern Flank). Photos were submitted by **Mr. Orr** and will be added to the record. The lights have solar panels that are wrapped around the post. So far, the lights are working nicely. Added as a note, one solar street light was installed at the training facility as a test and has been working for over a year. **Alderman Burger** asked if there is a savings associated with using the solar streetlights vs. traditional electric street lights. **Mr. Orr** stated that the lights initially cost about \$4000 each as compared to \$2500 for the electrical street lights. **Mr. Orr** said the long-term cost of electricity is eliminated. **Ms. Hunter** explained that there is a savings because electricity does not have to be run physically to each pole. **Alderman Burger** would like to present to BOMA a study showing what the solar lights would save the City over a twenty-year period and what the breakeven period would be. **Mr. Orr** said he would reach out to the Parks Department for additional information.

PACE Legislation HB0464 and SB0794

Legislation has been introduced in the State legislature to allow PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy). This legislation will allow Tennessee cities and municipalities to create a financing mechanism for clean energy investments (without having to go through legislation). This lets the city overcome initial startup cost by borrowing against property assessments and pay back over time, taking the increased value of the property assessments in consideration. This legislation simply clears the way for cities to decide if they want to introduce a PACE program. Several states currently have this legislation in place. **Chair Moreo** will monitor the progress of the proposed legislation.

State of the City May 17th

Mr. Orr stated that the State of the City address will be held on May 17th. The Mayor will present the address at the new Williamson County Enrichment Center on Columbia Ave. The breakfast will start at 7 am and the program will start at 7:30 am.

Next Meeting Date May 5, 2017; no meeting in June

Mr. Orr stated that the next Sustainability Commission meeting will be held on Friday, May 5th at 8 am. There will not be a meeting in June.

Other Announcements

Alderman Burger announced in June the Keep Tennessee Beautiful program would be starting a new litter campaign. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Litter Reduction Efforts

Mr. Orr stated that litter is an on-going issue. **Alderman Burger** was invited to speak on what was being done by the community to address litter reduction. **Mr. Orr** also reached out to Keep Williamson Beautiful. **Jennifer Gosciniak** was present to represent Keep Williamson Beautiful. Two years ago, the City received a litter reduction grant. The grant was used to promote the recycling program and keep litter out of local waterways.

Sargent Stephens, with the Williamson County Sheriff's Department, works with inmates each week to remove litter on local streets. The State of Tennessee grant used to fund this program states the inmates may clean up along only County and State roads, such as Mack Hatcher Parkway, Franklin Road, and Lewisburg Pike.

The City of Franklin Sustainability Commission works with programs such as Keep Williamson Beautiful to address the litter issue. The role of Keep Williamson Beautiful is to recruit local volunteers to aid in the clean up, provide gear such as bags and vest, and to educate the public. One such program involves working with the over fifty schools throughout Williamson County to educate children through reading.

The Adopt-A-Highway program is a road clean-up program which works with volunteers to adopt a specific section of the road. The volunteers are expected to clean the area at least 4 times per year. **Alderman Burger** would like to contact someone at this program. Keep Williamson Beautiful works with Laura Williams at TDOT concerning this program.

Alderman Burger stated she recently had a meeting with **Mayor Moore, Eric Stuckey, Joe York, Mark Hilty, and Becky Caldwell** to discuss the litter issue. She receives several emails complaining about litter, especially in the Cool Springs area. The meeting discussed how to address the issue without allocating funds.

Alderman Burger invited **Tim and Sally McCorkle** to share their views on the topic. **Alderman Burger** also stated that she contacted Aubrey Preston to learn more about his program, Trashersize, in Leipers Fork. This program recruits groups of friends and families to meet twice per year to exercise while cleaning up litter. The program also provides education on dangers to look out for while cleaning up the litter. **Alderman Burger** stated that there is a new Cool Springs Trashercize “Tribe” Group. **Alderman Burger** worked with Joe York, from the City of Franklin (COF) Streets Department, to help clean up the East McEwen Road area.

Alderman Burger has contacted several local developers in Cool Springs who said they would help fund the clean-up program advertising. **Alderman Burger** plans to work with all local Home Owner Association Presidents, Developers, and business owners to initiate a community effort to clean up streets. She also stated that the COF wants to start a new litter program. Milissa Reierson, Communications with COF, is the contact for this program.

Alderman Burger stated that one area of concern is the lack of using tarps on trucks. The City wants to increase awareness of the tarp rule when hauling debris or garbage. Keep Williamson Beautiful sponsors a day where they will give out a limited number of free tarps.

The COF Aldermen will also begin to identify area “hot spots” where litter is more prevalent. Community feedback is a must for this program to be successful. Once identified, the Streets Department will send out crews to the “hot spots” to address the litter issue before it becomes overwhelming.

Alderman Burger introduced **Sally McCorkle** to speak. Ms. McCorkle stated that most programs address litter “after the fact.” She is glad to see that the City is looking at proactive programs. She stated that most causes of litter are:

- Construction sites: Materials and Employee Litter
- Untarped trash haulers

Ms. McCorkle emphasized that turning untarped trucks away from the waste site is not the answer. She stated, in her opinion, that there should be a fine imposed on those with untarped trucks. She also stated that strip malls and business owners should be responsible for cleaning their areas, especially Bar/Restaurant owners where cigarette litter is excessive. She also stated that citizens should get used to the inconvenience associated with using road

crews to clean up areas. Citizens need to make the connection that littering will cause future inconvenience for everyone.

Alderman Skinner talked about past advertising campaigns conducted by the State of Tennessee. He also stated that the City of Franklin had created several clever social media campaigns to educate the public. **Alderman Burger** suggested the members come up with ideas for a public service announcement to address litter. These ideas should be given to Milissa Reiersen.

Tim McCorkle suggested that there has been too much talk and more action needs to be taken. He stated that every citizen needs to be responsible.

Jennifer Gosciniak, with Keep Williamson Beautiful, stated that research was being conducted to see where the “hot spots” are and how much litter is collected. During the first quarter of 2017, over 13,000 pounds of garbage had been collected by 400 volunteers. She also talked about Keep Williamson Beautiful’s April Campaign to educate 2nd graders through a reading program. She stated that volunteers were needed to read to the children in the 50+ public schools throughout Williamson County. **Mr. Orr** stated that he would volunteer. **Ms. Gosciniak** also stated that 70% of the litter comes from untarped trucks and storm related litter.

Mr. Baggett stated the City of Franklin should utilize programs already in existence such as Keep Williamson Beautiful, instead of “reinventing the wheel”. **Alderman Burger** stated that all four Alderman need to be involved, especially to identify the litter “hot spots”. She emphasized that there was a strong need to be proactive and involve local churches and businesses. She stated there needs to be an emphasis on educating the public about the tarp law. Keep Williamson Beautiful will be handing out a limited number of free tarps on May 6th to help educate the public.

Chair Moreo thanked everyone for their input. **Mr. Orr** stated the litter reduction issue would remain as a standing item for next month’s agenda.

Mayor’s Challenge for Conservation

Due to lack of time, **Mr. Orr** removed this topic from the agenda.

Sustainability Indicators and Measurements

Due to lack of time, **Mr. Orr** stated that this topic would be put on the May Agenda. **Mr. Orr** also stated that he would email the slides for this topic to the members.

Other News/Adjourn

Chair Moreo mentioned that **Morgan Dent** with the Chamber of Commerce would come back next month to discuss the Live Green Business Partnership to promote Franklin as a “Green City”.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:06 am.

ACTION ITEMS

- **Mr. Orr** will send out a meeting invitation for the next Sustainability meeting.
- **Mr. Orr** also stated that he would email the slides pertaining to the Sustainability Indicators and Measurements.
- **Alderman Burger** asked the members to come up with ideas for a public service announcement to address litter. These ideas should be given to Milissa Reiersen.