

Sustainability & Natural Resources Management Board

Minutes: April 7, 2022

Approved: July 14, 2022

Attending:

Community Forest Working Group:	Dave Griswold
Conservation Working Group:	Jane Costlow
Natural Products & Agriculture Working Group:	Bill Sylvester
Sustainability Working Group:	Ralph Harder
Mayor's Representative:	Councilor Leroy Walker
Planning Board Representative:	Evan Cyr
Staff:	City Manager Crowell
Guests:	Councilor Dana Staples, Kathy Shaw

Recorder: Dave Griswold

Call to Order: 6:10

Public Participation: None

Agenda Items

1. Terms and Appointments: All representatives to SNRB except Planning Board rep. were appointed at the 3 21 22 Council meeting. Evan will designate a representative from Planning Board before the next meeting.
2. Staff support will be determined. City Manager will support SNRB, at least for now. Dave said he expects City Arborist Noel Skelton to attend Community Forest WG meetings.
3. Officers:
 - a. **Motion was passed** to appoint Jane Costlow as chair
 - b. **Motion was passed** to appoint Dave Griswold as secretary
 - c. It was agreed that these positions would last for a year, with the idea of rotating the responsibilities.
4. Working Group Membership:
 - a. **Motion was passed** confirming continuing membership of those involved previously with the four committees which have become working groups in the

SNRB ordinance, in the interest of continuity. Details of term length will be discussed at the July meeting.

- b. **Motion was passed** to appoint Tim Macleod to the Sustainability Working Group.
 - c. Dave reported that the Community Forest WG has 4 members, one short of the minimum. He will solicit additional members.
5. SNRB City page will be set up with help from Liz Allen. It is a place to post minutes, agendas, research, reports, announcements etc. not opinion pieces. Past minutes and postings from working group origin committees will be carried forward for continuity.
 6. Meeting schedule:
 - a. Quarterly meetings will be held on the second Thursday of the month at 6:00 in the Auburn Hall Community Room. 7 14, 10 13, 1 12, 4 13.
 - b. Agendas and Minutes will be provided to the City Clerk.
 - c. WGs will report to the Council at its' meeting immediately following. July, Community Forest; October Sustainability; January, Agriculture; April, Conservation.
 7. The Sustainability WG will work on solid waste issues. City Manager recently renegotiated the Casella contract for trash collection.
 8. Working Group Funding:
 - a. SNRB funding requests will normally be provided to City Manager in January for consideration in the budget.
 - b. **Motion was passed** approving not more than \$200 per WG to be spent before the end of the fiscal year, 6 30 22. Previously approved \$200 for the Agriculture Committee will be allocated to the Agriculture WG. Other WGs must communicate with the City Manager prior to spending the approved funds. Conservation WG supplies to support Earth Day cleanup will be available from Public Works, as in the past.
 - c. City Manager has budgeted \$2000 to SNRB for 2023 fiscal year.
 9. Street Tree Draft Ordinance:
 - a. Councilor Staples solicited input and comments concerning the draft street tree ordinance developed by Community Forest and Conservation last fall and workshopped at the Council meeting on 3 21. Dave reviewed the background of the proposal and need to better support street trees which are an important part of the community forest. The draft ordinance requires planting of street trees based on street frontage of development projects. There was discussion about concerns with the details of implementing the proposal. It was recognized that the proposal alone would not totally address the need to replace neighborhood street trees that have been taken down, or the high risk of losing

ash trees to Emerald Ash Borer in the next 5-10 years. Councilor Staples will use the feedback provided to draft an improved proposal and bring it back to the Council.

New Business: none

Adjourn: 7:40