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CITY OF FOREST GROVE
SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION
COMMUNITY AUDITORIUM
THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 2018 – 6:00 P.M.

Dale Feik, Chair	Council Liaison, Elena Uhing	Amber Nieves, Vice Chair
Brian Schimmel		Jacob Rose
Tabitha Merten		Deke Gundersen
Robin Lindsley		Tammy Banek-Rydman
Hope Kramer		Kenneth Cobleigh
Fallon Harris		

All public meetings are open to the public and all persons are permitted to attend any meetings except as otherwise provided by ORS 192:

→ Citizen Communications – Anyone wishing to speak on an issue not on the agenda should sign in for Citizen Communications prior to the meeting. The presiding officer will call the individual or group by the name given on the sign in form. Each person must state his or her name and give an address for the record.

All public meetings are handicap accessible. Assistive Listening Devices (ALD) or qualified sign language interpreters are available for persons with impaired hearing or speech. For any special accommodations, please contact the City Recorder, at (503) 992-3235, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chair Nieves called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

Sustainability Commission Present:

Amber Nieves	Robin Lindsley	Fallon Harris
Brian Schimmel	Tammy Banek-Rydman	Jacob Rose

Council Present:

Elena Uhing

Staff Present:

Brandi Walstead Keelan, Program Coordinator

Guests:

Charlene Murdock
Cecelia Warner

1. COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS:

Ms. Cecelia Warner provided an update of the One Less Plastic Cup project. They will be present at the upcoming Farmers Market.

2. CONSENT AGENDA:

Mr. Rose moved to accept the minutes, Ms. Nieves seconded. Discussion: Ms. Lindsley brought attention to the date of the meeting being incorrect and a change of were to was under section 4. Mr. Rose amended the motion to approve with corrections, seconded by Ms. Nieves. Motion passed unanimously.

3. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS: None

4. **COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT:**

Councilor Uhing provided a report of City Council –

- CEP applications were presented to the CEPC. Mr. Schimmel for the Sustainability Commission did an excellent job of presenting with a lens of having requested the amount utilized over the past two years rather than an amount above. There will be a work session next week on allocations followed by a May 14th meeting to approve allocations.
- City Wide clean-up will be May 7-11th.
- Budget committee meeting on May 10th at 6:00 p.m.; Councilor Uhing recommends attending if one has not viewed the process.
- Public hearing period is open for comment until May 15th.
- There will be a joint session between the City Council and the Planning Commission on housing code changes.
- Second bid for the Senior Center came in at \$532,000. Looking at ways to decrease the amount.
- Police Chief, Janie Schutz was awarded the first ever given Victim Advocacy Award.
- Store Front Façade program is expanding.
- The Historic Landmarks Board is looking at a 3rd historic district, a Historic Downtown district.

5. **STAFF REPORT:**

Ms. Keelan provided the staff report -

Application was submitted by a school board member for a position; an application is not necessary for them, the board appoints someone. They were meeting this week so we will hopefully hear back from them.

With discussion of solar power, Ms. Keelan looked back at the whitepaper which had been written for that section of the Sustainability Action Plan. It is out of date; if the commission is moving forward at looking at City Council's request for recommendations outside of a full scale solar farm then it would be good to begin work on updating the paper. Mr. Rose stated that he would have great interest in it; Ms. Lindsley stated it would be helpful to the subcommittee she intends to recommend. Ms. Keelan will begin work on it.

Ms. Keelan provided known update of the CEP grant for the bicycle share program and updated on a regional look at dockless bike share.

6. **MINI GRANT APPLICANT: Cecelia Warner (for Kaely Summers), Farmers Market Waste Center Expansion**

\$228 was requested to place towards 500 100% bamboo cups. This would be the remainder of the CEP funds allocated for mini-grants. Mr. Schimmel stated that if the Commission was in agreement, any funds that remain unused from other projects could potentially be transferred to this funding as well.

Mr. Rose moved to fund the mini-grant in the amount of \$228 and any funds remaining unused by the end of the grant cycle would go to the project. Ms. Nieves seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

7. TUALITY PLAINS GRAINS UPDATE:

Mrs. Charlene Murdock provided an update of the grains initiative in Forest Grove. She has been a resident of Forest Grove since the 70's. She was born on a farm where she had access to nutritious food. Has been a delegate to worldwide farmers for 5 years, which is how Nana Cardoon's was born. The ideal is for food security through gardens and education. Another vision is reclaiming farms for local community feeding. There has been a project of trials for grains at Nana Cardoons with a Grain Initiative, looking at a brick and mortar tortilleria and mentoring of bakers and pastry makers. The grains trial plantings started with 3 acres last year and have grown to 30 acres this year. There has been interest from local breweries for utilizing local grains, including Dogwood Distilling, Waltz and Kaiser brewing.

In 2017 there was a Grains Festival event with 350-400 people in attendance. It will take place again this year at the Spiesschaert Farm on September 22, 2018. They have partnered with Tabor Baking for milling of grains for now and looking at a fundraiser to purchase their own mill.

8. KNOWLEDGE PUB DEBRIEF

The commission discussed the events leading up to the Knowledge Pub, noting that communication between commission members was fairly good. It was felt that the trivia questions could use a different format; particularly in how prizes are determined. There were approximately 25 people in attendance. Suggestions: better lighting, advertising of prizes, advertising to various demographics. Suggestions in advertising includes connected with CCI, advertising with the school.

9. CURRENT PROJECT PLANNING: TOPICAL ARTICLES

May article will be written by Mr. Schimmel and the topic will be homelessness. The June article will be written by Mr. Gundersen. At the next meeting the commission will determine the upcoming schedule for articles.

10. CURRENT PROJECT PLANNING: GOOD NEIGHBOR AGREEMENT

The Special evolved from Good Neighbor Agreements to Clean Air and Water Quality Standards for Forest Grove. Ms. Keelan pointed out that since the committee was established by vote of the full commission that any such changes need to be voted on by the full commission.

Ms. Nieves moved to change the special committee from Good Neighbor Agreement research to Clean Air and Water Quality Standards for Forest Grove. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rose. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Nieves requested on behalf of the committee members that Councilor Uhing inquire to City Council about the turn-around time for access to the City's newly updated Table of Special Ordinances. They had been advised it is in the process of being updated and they would like to know when the newly codified Tables will be available for review. Councilor Uhing advised she would check into this and get back with an answer next meeting.

11. COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS:

Ms. Lindsley shared that there will be a Gathering of the Gardeners event on May 12th.

Mr. Schimmel shared that the first of the series of meetings for the Latino Summit has been moved to May 23rd.

12. FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS:

- Knowledge Pub- 10 minutes
- Discussion with Parks Dept of weed and pest control
- Future Article assignments
- Green Energy Jobs (future – Devon)
- Housing Co-Op (Future- Tabitha)

13. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 7:59 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brandi Walstead Keelan, Program Coordinator
City of Forest Grove

Approved by the Forest Grove Sustainability Commission:

Date: 6/28/18