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

Amber Nieves, Chair	Council Liaison, Elena Uhing	Fallon Harris, Vice Chair
Brian Schimmel		Jacob Rose
Tabitha Merten		Robin Lindsley
Tammy Banek-Rydman		Kenneth Cobleigh
Hope Kramer		L. Kate Grandusky

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➔ 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: Chair Nieves called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Sustainability Commission Present:

Robin Lindsley	Fallon Harris	Jacob Rose
Brian Schimmel	Kenneth Cobleigh	
Tabitha Merten	Tammy Banek-Rydman	

Council Present:

None

Staff Present:

Brandi Walstead Keelan, Program Coordinator

Guests:

Colleen Walker, School Gardens Coordinator

1. COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS: None

2. CONSENT AGENDA:

Mr. Rose moved to accept minutes for June, Mr. Schimmel seconded. Discussion: None. Motion passed unanimously.

3. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS: Addition of Colleen Walker, School Garden Coordinator to discuss the status of school gardens. No objections. Ms. Walker was added to the agenda by consensus.

4. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT:

N/A

5. STAFF REPORT:

Ms. Keelan provided the staff report -

The CEP grant for the Pilot Bike share Program will not be extended, there will be notification going out from Mr. Downey. There was discussion of the Economic commission seat; Ms. Lindsley will reach out to the commission member for status.

6. CURRENT PROJECT PLANNING: School Gardens

The first portion of school gardens involved an update from Ms. Walker. Ms. Walker worked throughout the 2017/18 school year to assist with development and maintenance of the school gardens. She coordinated regular garden coordinator meet ups, worked with five educators that received PDU's in Environmental Ed Workshops, 9 GE's were able to attend the Farm to School/School Garden Summit. Neil Armstrong was expanded with six new garden beds and they launched a garden club. She worked to grow and develop the garden classroom at Harvey Clark with six educators and two more interested educators. Pacific University assisted in the Harvey Clark project. One class developed the design and a second class assisted with implementation. It is felt that this process could be utilized again in the future.

10 out of 12 schools in the district now have a school gardens, with the last being Fernhill and Cornelius. Aspirations for next year include a project to protect the pollinators and research farm to school. Upcoming in October will be a school gardens tour; more information will be shared once the media materials are complete. Funding provided by Immigrant Refugee Community Organization allows for two summer garden attendants. They will assist with upkeep and harvest. Vegetables will be provided to NAM's food bank and there will be two free harvest tables to educate receivers on school gardens. They were looking at August 12th and 26th but will send dates when they are locked in as well as location.

The commission then discussed ideas for their involvement. Vice Chair Harris stated that their options were to work with a project already in progress or to come up with a project of their own. It was felt the two schools left needing gardens would be a large project to try to complete. A project around pollinators was discussed with the idea of speaking to a local bee person; possibly either Ron Spindle or Nancy Hertert.

It was decided to request to present to the City Council the work that has been invested in school gardens with a follow up to present to the School Board.

The sub-committee for school garden projects was decided on by consensus to be: Ms. Harris, Ms. Merten, Mrs. Banek-Rydman and Mr. Cobleigh

7. CURRENT PROJECT PLANNING: Homelessness

Mr. Schimmel led the discussion for this topic. He discussed the visible and invisible community support that goes to homelessness and shared information from the CPO meeting. The CPO had provided a list of local services and attempting to create a community coalition that would connect service providers. Mr. Schimmel raised the idea of a Hunger and Homelessness Proclamation as suggested at the June meeting. He discussed two ideas around timing that would bring the greatest awareness to the issue as well as synergy. The commission discussed some possible ideas for events that could be held, such as a dinner

with a moderator. Mr. Schimmel will approach CCI for collaboration. Ms. Merten will provide resources from research she has completed.

Ms. Lindsley moved to pursue this topic as a project for the remainder of the year, Ms. Merten seconded. Discussion: sub-committee makeup will be Mr. Schimmel, Mr. Cobleigh, and Ms. Harris. Vote was taken; motion passed unanimously.

8. CURRENT PROJECT PLANNING: Residential Solar Education

This topic was tabled until September by consensus.

9. CURRENT PROJECT PLANNING: KNOWLEDGE PUB

This topic was tabled by consensus; the subcommittee will meet.

10. CURRENT PROJECT PLANNING: TOPICAL ARTICLES

Ms. Harris submitted her article on school gardens. Mr. Rose will submit an article for October and the Homelessness sub-committee will submit an article for November.

11. FUTURE PROJECT PLANNING: Better School Food

Ms. Walker will be working on research of this topic and how it has been accomplished in other schools. Ms. Grandusky had provided information on the schools that she is aware of but not present this evening to discuss it. Mrs. Banek-Rydman stated that her aunt who is a school cook in Texas utilizes fresh food.

Ms. Harris moved to table this topic for the 2019 work plan discussions later in the year, Ms. Merten seconded. Discussion: None. Motion passed unanimously.

12. COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS:

Ms. Lindsley stated she purchased property in the Hawthorne area and intends to build garden beds for a neighborhood garden. Ms. Harris inquired how CALC students can assist. They will speak off line.

Mr. Schimmel stated that he will be sending out a new add for the updated mini-grant cycle.

Mr. Rose has moved to Portland and no longer a Pacific University student; inquired on the possibility of being moved to the At-Large position. Mrs. Keelan will discuss with the City Recorder.

13. FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS:

Mr. Schimmel requested time on the agenda for a mini-grant application review; Run for Shelter.

Ms. Harris addressed the note of extending the August meeting. Ms. Harris moved to extend the meeting by half an hour, making it 5:30-8:00 pm, seconded by Mr. Rose. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

14. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandi Walstead Keelan, Program Coordinator

City of Forest Grove

Approved by the Forest Grove Sustainability Commission: Date: AUGUST 23, 2018