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**CITY OF FOREST GROVE
SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION
COMMUNITY AUDITORIUM**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2019 – 6:00 P.M.

MEETING MINUTES Approved by Commission on 11/21/19.

CALL TO ORDER: Co-Chair Harris called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

Sustainability Commission Present:

Fallon Harris

Johanna Peeters Weem

Lilly Meek

Robin Lindsley

Tabitha Merten

Absent, Excused: Kenneth Cobleigh, Amber Nieves

Council Liaison: Elena Uhing

Staff: Elizabeth Stover, Program Coordinator

Guests: None

- 1. COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS:** None.
- 2. COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS:** Jacob Rose resigned.
- 3. CONSENT AGENDA:** Harris moved to approve the minutes, Peeters Weem second; Lindsley abstains from voting, unanimous.
- 4. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS:** Solar panel presentation moved to December 12, 2019 meeting. Lindsley to add a quick review of neighborhood and backyard gardens to item #8: Local Farm & School Collaborations. Harris to add an update to the school garden mini-grant to item #7: Food Waste.
- 5. SOLAR PANEL PRESENTATION:** Moved to December 12, 2019 meeting.
- 6. MINI-GRANT REQUEST:** Moved to December 12, 2019 meeting.
- 7. FOOD WASTE & SCHOOL GARDEN GRANT UPDATE:** Students at Pacific University showed interest in doing educational outreach or project regarding food waste; however, the Food Waste Ordinance roll out will not coincide with the class terms at the university. Harris provided a list of books to Lindsley for the school gardens curriculum kits, a set of ten of each book will be ordered. Curriculum focuses on 1st and 3rd grades. Harris created an award for a 1st and a 2nd grade teacher for school gardens, Councilor Uhing suggested to invite the awardees to the Commission meeting to present them.

Eden Acres has a contract with the school district to pilot the 1st and 3rd grade curriculum. The kits are part of the curricular support the schools will get in addition to access to the school gardens. Pacific University, Forest Grove School District, and community volunteers and

coordinators help maintain the spaces to make sure they are ready for everyone. Councilor Uhing suggests putting a description on the City's website to promote the program.

- 8. LOCAL FARM AND SCHOOL COLLABORATIONS & REVIEW OF FOOD ACTION PLAN:** Four to five years ago, the Commission surveyed where people are gardening in their backyards. There was a 10% response rate, and responses were mapped. Lindsley piloted a project called South Hawthorne Neighborhood Garden and would like to replicate that to other areas of the city. The purpose is to feed hungry people, encourage fresh food consumption, and share gardening and food preservation skills and information.

Farm and school collaboration: Lindsley to write thank you notes to those who donated food to the gleaning program. To include a questionnaire and assess who is, could, or willing to sell to the food service providers of the district. Meek to ask Bon Appetit if they would be interested in a list of suppliers.

- 9. SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING:** The next meeting for the Earth Day Fair & Litter Clean Up is scheduled for 11/12/19. Group decided to write a mini-grant for \$500 and generate a list of items/resources needed. Next clean up event in April will be more interactive with booths, activities, scavenger hunt, and specific assigned areas to clean up.

- 10. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT:** November meeting with Committee for Community Involvement (CCI): both commissions to provide a list of desired outcomes from the meeting.

- 10/26, 1pm – 4pm: 110th Anniversary of the library celebration
- 10/30, 8am: Adelante Open House to show and highlight new building
- 11/2, 6pm: Mayor's dinner and auction to benefit the Senior Center
- 11/10, 12:30pm: Elks Lodge Veterans dinner
- 11/14, 3:30pm: Update on the Council Creek Regional Trail at the Cornelius Library
- 11/21, 6pm – 8pm: Police Bond Open House in the Community Auditorium
- City Council is reviewing the city's vision statement and add a value statement; City to work with a consultant
- City's Communications Plan is underway with a consultant
- HUD approved 60 single family affordable housing in Washington County; Forest Grove to receive 6
- Bylaws for commissions will be in the Council rules; Sustainability Commission to make a decision in December regarding what their bylaws will look like
- Bella Donna to move into Maggie's Buns
- New mercantile gift shop in Patterson's
- New Mexican bakery on 19th Avenue
- OPB fall campaign on Forest Grove
- Five Stars Burgers moved to Cornelius
- At the library:
 - 10/29: Hiking Oregon History author talk
 - 11/9: Death Cafe
 - 11/16: Land of the Midnight Murder author talk
 - 12/3: Evening of Music with Outbound Traveler
 - 12/7: Wassail

11. STAFF REPORT: Peeters Weem to submit application for the NLC Washington DC trip by deadline. Finalize dates for November and December Commission meetings. November 21, and December 12: Merten moves and Harris second; unanimous.

12. FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS:

- November: CCI and Sustainability joint meeting
- December:
 - Peeters Weem: the Community Cupboard
 - Lindsley: Free food grant update
 - Recap November meeting
 - Solar panel presentation (guest)
 - Bylaws: Finalize

13. ADJOURNMENT: Harris adjourned the meeting at 6:58pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Elizabeth Stover, Program Coordinator
City of Forest Grove

Approved by the Forest Grove Sustainability Commission: Date: 11/21/19