

Sustainability Council meeting January 13, 2021—by Zoom

Present: Stephanie Aure, Betty L Beer, Robin Butterbaugh, Darcy Green, Louis Hesler, Brianna Kratz, Jennifer McLaughlin, Chair, Norma Nusz-Chandler, Paul Peterson, Jacob Meshke staff liaison for City of Brookings, Lawrence Novotny, visitor, Russ Halgerson representing BMU

Absent: Anna Barr, Ben Vukovich

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:07 p.m.
2. The agenda was approved.
3. Louis Hesler moved and Robin Butterbaugh seconded for **December minutes** to be approved and the motion unanimously passed.
4. There were no **Open Forum** items.
5. **City Update:** The City is working in partnership with SDSU on pollinator, stormwater plantings. City Hall has been pleased with the use of the water bottle refill stations. Several new positions in the City will look at or include aspects of sustainability - Street Manager and Public Works. On Jan. 19th the City will present on City growth and the future. The City asks for support for city growth from a sustainability lens, such as stormwater, smart growth, density, etc, and recommends that our group be included in the conversation with the planning commission which is the first public opportunity for input.
6. **Solar Discussion**—Russ Halgerson, BMU reported that they installed the second residential solar unit in the Windemere area in Brookings. It is primarily inverter based with a potential for battery in the future. It is working well, although not as much electricity is being generated as its full potential, since it is winter. BMU wants our committee to help with education. We discussed various changes to the BMU 2-page communication and discussed ways to distribute the information, including social media.

Bright Energy Program: BMU would charge a small extra fee to residential users who choose 100% renewable (or 100% carbon free) electricity. January 1 was the initial pilot, and soon it will be offered to all Brookings residents. BMU will advertise on FB and possibly in their bills and Russ asked that our committee also help with advertising.

Ride and Drive Event—possible event in August or September for EV owners and their cars and dealers to drive and share info. Russ will forward contact info so we can keep car dealers in the loop. Russ is also a contact. Some new electric cars are coming out this year and in future years. For instance, Nissan will have a crossover soon, and trucks are planned. The contact for Nissan is Ian Kumerow at ian.kumerow@billionauto.com, 605-215-8362.

7. **Election of officers:** Jennifer called for election on a slate of officers. Paul moved and Stephanie seconded that we adopt the following slate and the motion was approved unanimously:

Jennifer McLaughlin	Chair
Robin Butterbaugh	Vice Chair

Paul Peterson
Betty L Beer

Recorder
Alternate Recorder

8. **2021 Strategic Plan** Discussion and Approval. Social Justice was added as a concern, with liaison as needed to all committees, highlighting CLEAR Partners and Human Rights Commission as having more in common with our committee.

2A of the Strategic plan is amended to delete reference to Dakota Community Market and to reference local foods instead.

6B We added support for sustainable growth initiatives by the City

Motion to approve the amended 2021 Strategic Plan by Louis Hesler, seconded by Betty. Unanimously approved.

9. **2020 Annual Report:** Jennifer will write this up and then send to all members for any changes. She will do the same for the Strategic Plan. Jake will have input on both.

10. **Subcommittees:** New members will indicate to Jennifer which committees they want. No other committee or liaison reports.

11. **Future agenda items:** 2020 Recap from Todd Langland
Liaison to Park Board

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p,m, Paul moved /Stephanie seconded

Respectfully submitted, Betty L Beer