

City of Brookings Sustainability Council Minutes

Wednesday, July 14, 2021 4:00 PM Virtual Meeting

Sustainability Council Members: Darcy Green, Brianna Kratz, ~~Ben Vukovich~~, ~~Stephanie Aure~~, Norma Nusz Chandler, Robin Buterbaugh, Jennifer McLaughlin, Betty L Beer, Louis Hesler, Emily Abele, and SDSU Student Representative-VACANT. City Staff: Jacob Meshke, Assistant City Manager.

1. Not official meeting due to agenda not published on city website, so no Call to Order, Approval of the Agenda, or Approval of the Minutes

2. Open Forum

3. Brookings Farmer's Market – Nick Ruskin, Farmer's Market Manager; unavailable tonight, so maybe hearing from at next meeting

4. City Update – J. Meshke presented

- Possibility of indoor Farmers Market at the Swiftel Center
- City bought Plug-In Hybrid Ford Escape – awaiting arrival
- Storm water master plan in process (last one around 10 years ago) – focus on green infrastructure with the firm the city is hiring
- Grant to state for food pantry collaboration (Food insecurity groups)
- Starbucks with Drive-thru going to be going in on 6th St.
- Old Pizza Hut site – Brookings County Title will go in there
- Swiftel Center new management: Spectra Venue Management
- First reading of ordinance on medical marijuana dispensaries regulations in City Council

- Parks master plan is wrapping up

5. Affordable Housing Initiatives – Mike Struck, Community Development Director

- Connecting 15th St S from Main through Medary, likely potentially connecting to 22nd Ave
- Properties for drainage/water collection along 15th St on the north side in new development (
- Other property planning to put in workforce housing (18 units that are owner occupied but have association) on south side
- Timberline addition: Restricted to \$245k. Another possibility for ICAP and Habitat in the West
- River run addition west of Valley View addition (South of West 20th St) through Habitat.
- Southline addition: Income based; working with South Dakota Housing Initiative
- Generally working on increased density with ownership opportunities to increase efficiency of land and affordability for housing.
- Effect of increased lumber costs on some of these projects, but this is resolving

6. Common Read Collaboration

What the Eyes Don't See (Flint water crisis); possible collaboration to put on this event. Will be email vote coming out.

7. Strategic Plan Review

- Annual Mayor's sustainability award: need to put out call for nominations. Celebration is in October at Swiftel Center. August to accept nominations.
- Reviewed the sustainability themed social media posts/ads from the last year and plans for new ones
- Reviewed the local food efforts and presentations on the community gardens and looking towards more community gardens elsewhere in the city.
- Energy committee no updates at this time. No new movement on solar for the city.

- Waste: no updates. Possible collaboration with university
- Climate: Climate action plan maybe from one of the subcommittees; maybe look at other communities; maybe share at next meeting
- City Support: Continue to support city where education needed.

8. Growing Sustainability Communities Conference

- Robin and Emily planning to go – see email vote coming out

9. Updates from Liaisons

- a. Bicycle Committee: not available
- b. Human Rights Commission: Juneteenth event and Pride panel. Looking at Common Read event
- c. CLEAR: Mental health forum; report in process. Working on mental health call person instead of calling police

10. Call for Future Agenda Items

- Consideration of Sustainability Council table at Farmer's market: Robin, Darcy, and maybe Louis to help.

Respectfully Submitted: Emily Abele, Recorder