



**FARMERS
BRANCH**

City of Farmers Branch

Minutes

Sustainability Committee

Fire Station #2
13333 Alpha Link
Farmers Branch, TX, 75244

Wednesday, January 8, 2025

6:30 PM

Fire Station #2

Meeting held at 6:30 PM

Presiding: Loren Rives, Chairperson

Price Trosin (Vice-Chair)

Ted Spradley (Secretary)

Al Mahesh

Val Clark

Suzette Vaquera

Jasper Morse

Absent: Lisa Massey

Staff: Alex Pharmakis, Sustainability Manager

A. CALL TO ORDER

Loren Rives called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm on December 11th, 2024.

B. CITIZEN COMMENTS

No comments received

C. AGENDA ITEMS

C.1 Consider approving minutes from the December 11, 2024 meeting; and take appropriate action

Suzette Vaquera motioned to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Al Mahesh. Motion passed unanimously.

C.2 Receive staff updates on sustainability initiatives

Alex Pharmakis provided the following updates:

- The Boards and Commissions Banquet will take place on Saturday, February 22 at 6 pm at Venue 1842
- The State of the City event will be held on Tuesday, January 28 at 6 pm at City Hall
- City Council will discuss future options for citizen drop-off of trash/recycling on January 21.
- Staff is working with the Planning Department on updates to the Code of Ordinances to meet the SolSmart Designation Requirement
- Staff is continuing work on the LEED for Cities certification and Greenhouse Gas Inventories
- Staff is evaluating applying for multiple grants for the following:
 - Trail funding
 - Electric vehicles
 - Urban Heat Measurement program
- Water Rebates
 - 109 toilet replacements approved
 - 13 irrigation checkup applications approved
- The next Sustainability Committee meeting will be February 12, 2025

C.3 Receive an update from committee members on sustainability initiatives and programs from other cities

At the January 8, 2025 meeting, Loren Rives requested that all members provide an update on an initiative from another city that aligns with the adopted plans.

Loren Rives mentioned information about grow zones and providing education on the topic. This could potentially be combined with the water quality survey. She mentioned examples of citizen science and the City of Dallas' "adopt a shoreline" program at White Rock Lake. Grants could potentially be available through the Texas Water Development Board or Texas A&M Agrilife.

Al Mahesh mentioned having a dashboard that could display the accomplishments of the committee. He also mentioned strategies that other cities have implemented to reduce urban heat such as: tree plantings, reflective roofs, and water structures.

Jasper Morse mentioned that the cities of Louisville, Kentucky and San Antonio offer rebates for the installation of cool roofs.

Ted Spradley mentioned LED rebates and recycling/zero waste events that the City of Garland has hosted in collaboration with Dallas College.

Price Trosin mentioned micro-grids and multi-family solar projects.

Val Clark mentioned the permeable parking lot in Downtown Carrollton and how that mitigates heat and stormwater. She also mentioned native plantings and programs such as "adopt a tree" and "cool schools".

- C.4 **Receive subcommittee updates**
- **Built and Natural Environment**
 - **Communications**
 - **Water Conservation**

No updates received

- C.5 **Receive an update from Committee members on activities attended**

No updates received

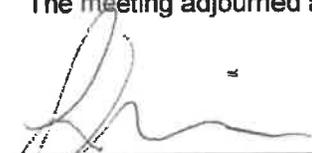
- C.7 **Discuss agenda items for future Sustainability Committee meetings**

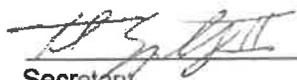
Information on Oncor and other rebate programs.

D. **ADJOURNMENT**

Price Trosin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Suzette Vaquera. Motion approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.



Chair

Secretary

