

SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting February 24, 2016 – 7 pm

A. Call to Order at 7:13 pm, present: Liz Amsden, Margarito Martinez, Steve Crouch, Charles Brunk, Veronica Juarez.

B. No Public Comment

1. Motion to approve the agenda – Margarito moved, seconded by Steve, approved unanimously
2. Motion to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2016 meeting with changes – Steve moved, seconded by Margarito, approved unanimously
3. Discussion and action to appoint to the Sustainability Committee as members – Stan Moore, Margarito Martinez and Steve Crouch, subject to Stan's accepting (confirmed on March 3rd), approved unanimously
4. Report on actions taken by the City and State on the 'emergency' of homelessness – bills in process, the County is taking more action but needs to be more integrated with the City, the City does not have the money to cover its current commitment but has motions in committee to address.
5. Discussion on class on harvesting water for Highland Park (Charles Brunk). Possible motion to take it to the full Neighborhood Council or use it as our first event. Elected to use as part of the Sustainability Committee's event. Covers an intro to Brad Lancaster's 8 principles of successful rainwater harvesting. Charles and Veronica have given this class before in Lincoln Heights. It focusses on ways to approach and reuse water without creating problems, affecting adjacent properties, etc.; use of native plants and vegetables; soils; problem solving. Charles also has contacts who can talk about sacred ecology, perennial vegetables, permaculture and adobe building. Will see who might be available on April 9th.
6. Choosing an event – discussion with decision to advertise an event by the committee and include a variety of seminars, some TBD.
7. Motion to select an event, location and date = moved by Liz, seconded by Margarito, agreed unanimously to hold seminars and provide information on Saturday, April 9th at Audubon (Debs Park) from 9 am to 1 pm, and to invite the Elections Committee to encourage attendees to register and vote in the upcoming elections.

Seminar suggestions include harvesting water, converting to native plants, reducing water use in the home, growing vegetable in Highland Park, permaculture.

Liz to circulate what would be needed with discussion by e-mail prior to our next meeting (confirming seminars, preparing flyers for the event and with information to distribute on issues such as recycling resources, what is sustainability and resilience, green energy options, water saving tips, budget for snacks, beverages, flyers and other costs.
8. Discussion about what our mission statement should address. Tabled
9. Discussion on incentives to keep businesses local, move to a living wage. Tabled
10. New business none
11. Adjournment 7:58 pm