



HISTORIC
FRANKLIN
TENNESSEE

Sustainability Commission

February 1, 2019

8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

City of Franklin –CDCR – City Hall

8:00 am	Welcome/Introductions	All
8:05 am	*Approval of November Meeting Minutes	All
8:05 am – 8:10 am	Announcements: Planapalooza Feb 19-22 Litter Index Tour City Commission Updates Other News	Andrew Orr
8:10 am – 8:35 am	Franklin Transportation Projects	Jonathan Marston
8:35 am – 8:45 am	Franklin Tomorrow On The Table Results	Patrick Baggett
8:45 am – 9:00 am	2019 Activities	Dana Kose Andrew Orr
8:55 am -- 9:00 am	Other News/Adjourn	All

*Item contains an attachment or link

MISSION STATEMENT: The Sustainability Commission provides guidance to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen and the Planning Commission and leadership for the entire Franklin Community.

Brenton Montgomery (12/11/2021)
Will Dodson (12/13/2019)
Beverly Burger (BOMA co-terminus)
Patrick Baggett (Franklin Tomorrow co-terminus)
Mike Leonard (12/12/2020)

Todd Palmer (8/9/2019)
Dana Kose (12/13/2019)
Nancy Whittemore (10/23/2021)
Micah Wood (10/23/2021)

The City of Franklin has committed itself to developing an ongoing strategy of sustainability for the community. This initiative will be designed to achieve viable, fulfilling, and rewarding lifestyles for our residents and business partners through responsible and innovative stewardship of the environment.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
FRANKLIN SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION**

January 11, 2019

The Franklin Sustainability Commission held a regular meeting on Friday, January 11, 2019, at 8:00 a.m., in the Community Development Conference Room.

Members Present: Chair Dana Kose, Alderman Beverly Burger, Mike Leonard, Todd Palmer, Brenton Montgomery, Micah Wood, and Nancy Whittemore

Members Absent: Will Dodson and Patrick Baggett

Visitors: Cory Duggin – TLC Engineering

Staff Present: Andrew Orr, Elaine Ellis, Emily Hunter, Kelly Dannenfeller

Welcome/Introductions

Chair Kose called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. Introductions were made.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Mr. Wood moved, seconded by **Mr. Palmer**, to approve the minutes from November 2, 2018. The motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Announcements

Welcome Brenton Montgomery

Mr. Orr introduced the newest Commission member, **Mr. Montgomery**. **Mr. Montgomery** stated that he works with the TVA Energy Rights Solutions program.

AARP Age-Friendly Communities Program

Mr. Orr stated that Franklin is the 310th member of the AARP Age-Friendly Communities Program. He will be providing more information in the future.

LEED for Cities Case Study

The City of Franklin has achieved silver designation. The USGBC has put together a template that can be used to do a case study. **Mr. Orr** will provide more information in the future.

Hytch Update

The City of Franklin will be joining the Hytch APP program for its employees. The target start date is early February. Employees may receive a financial benefit for using the ride-share app.

Other News

Alderman Burger stated that Metro Nashville is considering increasing the number of scooters available. She stated she is looking into transportation options for the Cool Springs area, especially the McEwen/Nissan area. She stated that people are looking for alternative modes of transportation such as bikes or scooters, especially during the lunch hour periods. **Alderman Burger** stated that the City of Franklin would have to establish guidelines for area businesses to provide designated parking areas for the scooters or bikes.

Mr. Leonard stated that Cool Springs is a unique corridor and would need to establish guidelines.

Alderman Burger stated that several people cross I-65 during the lunch hour, especially to get to Whole Foods.

Ms. Whittemore stated that, in Nashville, they have regulations for the scooters and bikes, but they do not have the ability to enforce them. There have been several complaints concerning the parking of scooters along sidewalks. This makes it difficult for pedestrians with strollers or disabilities.

Alderman Burger stated she would like to have a test market for a limited period, probably six months. The number one goal is to keep traffic to a minimum for people trying to run errands during lunch.

Elect Chair and Vice Chair for 2019

Alderman Burger moved, seconded by **Mr. Wood** to nominate **Ms. Kose** for Chair. The motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Mr. Wood moved, seconded by **Mr. Leonard**, to nominate **Mr. Palmer** for Vice-Chair. The motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Discuss Proposed 2019 Activities

The Commission discussed the following agenda for 2019:

1. **January 11, 2019:** Planning Meeting/kickoff for the year/elect chair and vice chair/get ideas for field trip this spring/zoning ordinance update;

2. **February 1, 2019:** Engineering and infrastructure improvements/Signal Optimization
3. **March 1, 2019:** Scooters: A Nashville case study; staff and councilman who are working closely on this initiative will attend and provide an overview.
4. **April 5, 2019:** Franklin Transit. Review of the existing TMA Group routes and future plans
5. **May 3, 2019:** Field Trip ideas
6. **June 7, 2019:** Urban Green Lab
7. **July, 2019:** Off
8. **August, 2019:** Franklin Parks and what's in the works
9. **Fall of 2019:** Work on updating Sustainability Action Plan
10. Other ideas:
 - ☐ Learn about Nashville's bike share program
 - ☐ Green business program
 - ☐ Engaging the aldermen.

The following discussion ensued between **Mr. Orr, Ms. Kose, Mr. Leonard, Mr. Wood, Ms. Dannenfelser, Alderman Burger, Mr. Montgomery, and Ms. Whittemore.**

- Schedule should include more than recycling.
- March: Scooters Discussion - **Mr. Orr** will invite Mayor, Ken Moore and City Administrator, Eric Stuckey. If meeting time is not sufficient, should have secondary meeting in April.
- April: Franklin Transit:
 1. RTA Bus from Franklin to Nashville:
 - A. Propose a plan to encourage people who work in Nashville to ride this bus for one week per month. Work with corporate sponsors to encourage workers. Collect data to see how much fuel consumption saved, cars removed from road, etc. This would be a good campaign to run for Earth Day.
 - B. **Ms. Dannenfelser**, an RTA board member, will reach out to RTA marketing staff. Suggested RTA spokesperson could also come speak with commission in April.
 - C. Concerns include the location of the Park/Ride to Nashville. It is located at the Agriculture Center near the Peytonsville Road Exit. This means most riders must travel south in order to ride the bus north to Nashville. Also, due to lack of funding, there is no money to pay for parking, so the location has moved several times. Each time they move the location, they lose riders.
 - D. Have multiple rotating locations in Cool Springs for the RTA service.

2. Alderman Burger is working on a park/ride program for Cool Springs. It will take approximately four years to implement. One idea is to dedicate one floor of parking garage for park/ride vehicles.
- Commission priorities should align with the City's priorities for 2019.
 - Suggestion that each Commission member should meet individually with a member of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen, over coffee, to discuss concerns about their wards.
 - Affordable Housing:
 1. **Alderman Burger** has researched local and other areas in the United States to see how they are handling this issue. She has personally interviewed service workers in the Cool Springs area. Surprisingly, given the option, many service workers would prefer to commute and live in a more affordable, rural area.
 2. Have a meeting with all of the affordable housing agencies at the same time. This would include the Franklin Housing Authority, Hard Bargain, and other agencies to align their goals and strategies.
 3. Board of Mayor and Aldermen did not approve a consultant in the past because they did not have a clear plan.
 4. Look at pilot program to subsidize the fire and police staff so they can live closer to Franklin.
 5. Tour a neighborhood in Nashville or Franklin with a diverse socio-economic group that is working. Meet with residents of that neighborhood to get ideas for what is working.
 6. Set up endowment fund to purchase local land to build affordable housing. This would remove the burden of high land cost from the developer.
 - Branding/Marketing: There is no budget for marketing for the Commission. Budgeted items are for designated funds for expenditures such as the LEED certification.
 - May field trip suggestion was to visit a recycling center.
 - Recycling:
 1. Find out timeline for moving from blue bags to roll out bins. **Mr. Orr** will ask SES director for more information.
 2. Concentrate on program to encourage local businesses to recycle.
 3. Concern with haulers taking recycled items to landfill.
 - Determine if the 2018 priorities are still needed.

Zone Franklin: Zoning Ordinance Update

Ms. Dannenfels, Planning Long Range Supervisor, gave an update on the Zoning Ordinance. She discussed the areas that will affect sustainability:

1. Enhance transit stop standards. Triggers for level of development that would warrant shelter stops.
2. Enhance bicycle parking standards. Allow for long term parking spaces in developments.
3. Update standards for adequately sized dumpsters for commercial developments.

Ms. Dannenfels stated that the Planning Department was planning an event in February that would provide citizen feedback. This information would be used for input for the final Zoning Ordinance draft in April. The details for the event are:

Planapalooza will take place February 19-22, 2019 at City Hall. An opening presentation and hands-on workshop will kick off the event on Tuesday, February 19th at 6:00pm. Following the presentation, a citizen workshop will allow the community to provide input on existing and future development in Franklin. On Wednesday, February 20th, round table discussions will be held on topics such as neighborhood character, architecture and housing. Throughout the event, TPUDC's staff will be testing the working draft zoning ordinance through prototypical urban design scenarios. Planapalooza will conclude with a work-in-progress presentation on Friday, February 22nd at 3:00pm. All events will take place in City Hall and are open to the public. The planning studio will be open from Wednesday morning through Friday morning to allow the community an opportunity to provide input if they are unable to make the scheduled events.

Ms. Kose stated that providing enough space for both a trash dumpster and a recycling dumpster should be considered.

Ms. Whittemore stated that providing enough space for trucks to back up should be considered. She stated she would send **Ms. Dannenfels** a copy of Metro Nashville's zoning requirements for dumpsters.

Alderman Burger stated that the proposed Avalon development near McEwen and Caruthers would have a centrally located building for the businesses to bring their recycling and waste. This idea was from a development in Alpharetta, Georgia.

Other Business

Mr. Orr stated that he talked to a solar developer who has worked with the City. There is a solar battery test project for a building that would be off the grid. **Mr. Orr** stated the Water Department had revenue in reserve from their solar project. He stated the money would have to be used by the Water Department. There is a proposal to use a smaller building on the

property that would use only solar power. There was a discussion about the current contract length, the life of the current solar equipment and the cost to replace the equipment. **Mr. Orr** stated the replacement cost would be the responsibility of the developer.

Mr. Leonard stated that bringing in an intern would be helpful with the data for LEED. **Ms. Whittemore** stated that Metro Nashville had worked with Lipscomb University for obtaining interns.

Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:03 am.

- Mr. Orr will send out a meeting invitation for the next Sustainability meeting for February 1, 2019.