

Sustainability Commission

October 19, 2010

4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

City of Franklin - Community Development Conference Room

4:00 p.m.	Call to Order	Ken Scalf
4:05pm – 4:20 pm	Announcements: Sustainable Features Map Blue Bag Update Pumpkinfest	
4:20 pm – 4:50 pm	*Preferred Parking Program	John Saxton
4:50 pm -- 5:15 pm	Confirm Community Action Plan Update	Andrew Orr
5:15 pm -- 5:25 pm	Discussion of Green Permit Program	If Time Permits
5:25 pm — 5:30 pm	Adjourn	Ken Scalf

*Item contains an attachment or link

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

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

September 21, 2010

The Franklin Sustainability Commission held a regular meeting on Tuesday, September 21, 2010, at 4:00 pm in the Community Development Conference Room.

Members Present:	Ken Scalf, Chair	Adam Ballash, Vice Chair
	Ken Moore	Libby Marley
	John Saxton	Brian Miller
	Chuck Barber	L.K. Browning
	Lisa Smith	

Staff Present:	Catherine Powers	Andrew Orr
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Commission Volunteer:	Teresa Ashworth-Harris
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The agenda read as follows:

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Scalf: Called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Scalf: Presented the minutes for previous meeting for consideration.

Ms. Smith: Moved to approve.

Mr. Saxton: Seconded the motion to approve.

Minutes were unanimously approved by the Committee

Mr. Orr: Asked if everyone was happy with the minutes, detailed enough, etc.

Commission happy with minutes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIVING GREEN EXPO:

Mr. Orr: Thanked the commission volunteers with their help with the Living Green Expo and ways to make it grow. Discussion on how well the Living Green Expo was taken by public.

FARMERS MARKET SCARECROW FEST

Farmers Market Scarecrow Fest which is scheduled for October 9 invited us to attend. This would be another way to better communicate the various sustainability programs such as the Bluebag program and the Live Green program. Volunteers will be appreciated.

Ms. Marley: Discussed the importance of setting example by having recycling containers at events being held within the city.

Mr. Orr: There is also a competition of making scarecrow out of recyclable material.

Mr. Saxton: Suggests enlisting schools to participate and compete.

Mr. Orr: Just for your awareness, Columbia State Community College offers several courses in energy efficiently and renewable energy.

COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN UPDATE

PUBLIC EDUCATION

Mr. Orr: Briefly goes over the Public Education plan as follows:

Action 1: Grow the Live Green Business Partnership program to 250 members by March 17, 2011.

General discussion on strategies for accomplishing these goals/actions.

Action 2: Increase participation in the Bluebag recycling program to 45% by June, 2011.

General discussion on the percentage of participation in the Bluebag program and ways to increase the amount of participation.

Action 3: Start a successful pilot program at a local school that promotes sustainability cafeteria products, recycling and composting by August 2011.

General discussion on how to get schools to initiate and grow their programs in stages of involvement and have the template ready to go to other schools.

TRANSPORTATION & ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Action 4: Develop a preferred parking program for green parking spaces provided by the Long-Range Planning Supervisor by June 1, 2011.

Mr. Saxton: Mainly develop spaces for preferred parking. Will have presentation by next meeting.

Action 5: Action pertaining to environmental health.

Ms. Smith: Reduce the toxic chemicals in City Hall. Identify inventory of materials used. Another was carpooling.

Mr. Ballash: Incorporate a green cleaning group to help with City's group to change to environmental cleaning supplies.

General discussion on how to get this started and in place.

Action 6: Document and monitor the progress of implemented actions from the 2009 Community Action Plan.

Mr. Orr: Monitor progress on monthly ridership of the express bus service from Franklin to Nashville from TMA Group. Secondly, document the number and location of bicycle parking in the Central Franklin Character area. Reports provided by the Franklin Planning and sustainability Department.

URBAN SYSTEMS

Mr. Orr: Action 7: Develop a green guide for the design, development, and construction industries that identifies and encourages sustainable practices on new projects by December 2011.

Mr. Orr: Action 8: Establish incentives to encourage the application of the green guide into new projects by December 2012.

Mr. Ballash: Discussed adoption of the 2009 Building Code by the City of Franklin and advantages of the new code in construction of green buildings within the City.

General discussion on incentives for contractors to build green.

Discussion of a fast track system from ground up for building commercially.

WATER

Mr. Orr: Action 9: Determine community-wide water usage by acquiring and combining data from all water utility districts serving Franklin by February 2011.

Mr. Orr: Action 10: Reduce portable water usage for residents on City of Franklin water by 25% May through October and by 10% during the remaining months using 2008 as the base year by December 2012.

Mr. Orr: Action 11: Continue implementation and monitoring of previous action items from the 2009 Community Action Plan. 1) Monitor sub-watersheds of Harpeth River within UGB by 2011. 2) Establish baseline for natural stream conditions for each sub-watershed. 3) Establish priority sub-watersheds and develop watershed plans based on Actions 1&2.

ENERGY

Mr. Orr: Action 12: Increase the number of electric (45) and hybrid vehicles (4,800) in the community from 4,845 to 7,500, target date June 2013.

General discussion on charging stations and fees for their usage.

Mr. Orr: Action 13: Increase participation in energy efficiency audits, target date December 2011.

General discussions on how to perform audits for energy reduction activities.

Mr. Orr: Action 14: Establish a plan to improve energy efficiency at municipal facilities and reduce electricity usage by 5% or more, target date June 2012.

General discussion on LED lighting, finding a reputable manufacturer of LED and the maintenance needed and who will be responsible for the maintenance.

Mr. Orr: Action 15: Increase community-wide solar energy production 100%, target date January 2012.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 6:00pm ??



Preferred Parking for “Green” Vehicles

Purpose

To raise awareness of the City of Franklin Sustainability efforts by offering preferred parking to those vehicles who meet certain environmental criteria. In addition, it will encourage citizens to drive more fuel efficient vehicles.

Included in the City of Franklin 2009 Sustainable Community Action Plan

Transportation Committee Action #1 — “Develop a preferred parking program for green vehicles throughout the sixteen-block core of the City and on all City owned properties so that 10 percent of available vehicular public parking spaces are identified by June 1, 2011.”



Current Transportation Committee has looked at

- What constitutes a “Green Vehicle”?
- How will the “Green Vehicle” be identified?
- How will the Preferred Parking be enforced?
- What parking places will become Preferred Parking and how are they identified?



What constitutes a “Green Vehicle”?

- Originally the criteria was EPA Performance Scores of a minimum of 6 for Greenhouse Gas and Air Pollution with a combined Score of 14.
 - From the EPA website, there are 113 vehicles that meet this criteria.
 - However, there are some vehicles of the same make and model that do not meet the criteria due to different engine/transmission/optional equipment combinations. So it is difficult to determine which vehicles meet the criteria based on just make and model.
 - The general public is not generally conscious of what their vehicle scores are.
- Considered using the State of Tennessee HOV Smart Pass sticker
 - Only Hybrid vehicles can get HOV Smart Pass stickers.
 - However, there are gasoline powered vehicles that are equal or more fuel efficient than some Hybrid vehicles. It did not seem fair to exclude these vehicles.
- Use a Combined EPA MPG of 34 or greater.
 - Easier to determine—It is on the new vehicle sticker.
 - The general public is generally conscious of what their vehicle mileage is.
 - [Recommended by Transportation Committee](#)



How will the “Green Vehicle” be identified?

- Issue stickers with license plate renewal for qualifying vehicles
 - Requires Coordination with County Tag Office.
 - Requires a sticker be designed and printed.
 - Requires keeping track of the stickers.
 - Does not allow parking of out of area qualifying vehicles.
- Issue stickers on request for qualifying vehicles
 - Requires a sticker be designed and printed.
 - Requires someone to issue the stickers.
 - Does not allow parking of out of area qualifying vehicles.
- Use HOV Smart Pass stickers
 - Already determined that HOV Smart Pass stickers do not cover all qualifying vehicles.
 - Does not allow parking of out of state qualifying vehicles.
- Do not specifically identify the vehicles
 - Does not require a sticker and associated tracking.
 - Requires each citizen to determine if they meet the criteria.
 - Allows parking of out of area qualifying vehicles.
 - **Recommended by Transportation Committee**



How will the Preferred Parking be Enforced?

- Issue parking citations for non- “Green Vehicles”
 - Requires Issuing Officers to know what is and what is not a “Green Vehicle.”
 - May leave a bad impression
- Rely on Citizens to Honor the Preferred Parking locations
 - Recommended by Transportation Committee



What parking places will become Preferred Parking and how are they identified?

- Arbitrarily select 10% of total available parking—Approximately 90 spaces
 - Removing general parking spaces from Downtown may not be popular
- Set aside approximately 8 spaces per Parking Garage for Preferred Parking
 - Recommended by Transportation Committee
- Survey the Downtown area and determine if there are some spaces that have a low usage rate, yet still visible, and make some of these Preferred Parking.
 - Recommended by Transportation Committee



Survey of Downtown Parking Places

- Transportation Committee made a survey of the Downtown Parking Places
- Recommended 10 General Places and 8 in Each of the Garages
- Then Discussed the Recommendations with the following
 - Margret Martin – 4th Ward Alderman
 - Nancy Williams – Downtown Franklin Association Director
 - Catherine Powers – Planning & Sustainability Director
 - Milissa Reiersen – Communications Manager
 - Brad Wilson – Facilities Project Manager
 - Carl Barughman – Transportation Engineer
 - Preston Elliot – Franklin Transportation Authority Chairman
- They All had Consensus with the Recommendations



Map of Recommended Parking Places



Transportation Committee Preferred Parking Recommendations

- “Green Vehicles” are those with a Combined EPA MPG of 34 or greater
- Do not specifically identify the vehicles and rely on Citizens to Honor the Preferred Parking
- No penalty for non- “Green Vehicle parking in Preferred Parking
- Put Eight Preferred Parking spaces in the Each of the Garages, with Ten others as identified in the Downtown area.
- Identify the Preferred Parking spaces with a sign. A suggested design is shown.



Proposed Sign for Preferred Parking Spaces

Green Vehicle Parking

Electric Vehicles
or
EPA Combined
MPG of 34 or
Greater





Vehicles That Meet 34 MPG Requirement

Per the EPA the following Vehicles have a combined Mileage of 34 MPG

- TOYOTA Prius
- HONDA Civic Hybrid
- HONDA Insight
- FORD Fusion Hybrid
- MERCURY Milan Hybrid
- LINCOLN MKZ Hybrid
- SMART ForTwo
- AUDI A3 (Diesel)
- VOLKSWAGEN Jetta (Diesel)
- VOLKSWAGEN Jetta SportWagen (Diesel)
- VOLKSWAGEN Golf (Diesel)
- LEXUS HS 250h
- NISSAN Altima Hybrid
- FORD Fiesta SFE