

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
CITY OF TOWN & COUNTRY, MO
January 4, 2021
Via Zoom Videoconference
12:00 PM

Given the current public health crisis, various emergency meeting declarations, and in accordance with the provisions of Sec. 610.020, RSMo., this Conservation Commission meeting was held via Zoom videoconference and streamed live to YouTube. Public comments on agenda items were solicited via email. Real-time public viewing of the meeting was made available via the City's website at www.town-and-country.org.

Members: Alderman Jeff Wittmaier (chairman), Linda Robson (co-chairman), Sue Blake (out at 12:52), Hera Gerber (Absent), Linda Hultgren, Ann Marie Mayuga, Sandra Murdock, Sam Eveland (absent).

OTHERS PRESENT:

Communications and Administrative Assistant Morgan Kuepfert

1. Call to Order

Alderman Wittmaier called the meeting to order at 12:05 PM and the roll, as noted above, was called. There was a quorum.

2. Approval of December 7, 2020 Minutes

Ms. Robson moved for approval, seconded by Ms. Blake. The Minutes were approved.

3. 2021 Priorities

Ms. Kuepfert reviewed the order of priorities based on feedback from the Commission members on order of importance. Discussion ensued on how to proceed with each item, and potentially assigning a "leader" for each action item. Ms. Mayuga proposed assigning one action item per quarter and then selecting a leader for that item. Following discussion, Ms. Mayuga moved to assign one priority per quarter and assign a leader for that item. Ms. Murdock seconded and a voice vote carried unanimously. The Commission discussed how certain items should be placed in certain quarters due to their timely nature. Following discussion, Ms. Hultgren moved to set the following priorities:

- 1st Quarter: Terra-cycling
- 2nd Quarter: Green Thumb Awards
- 3rd Quarter: Deer Management
- 4th Quarter: Invasive Species

The motion was seconded by Ms. Blake and carried.

Additional discussions were held on the specifics of certain action items including deer management. The Commission referenced the previous Deer Management Task Force and will make further recommendations based off that Task Force's discussions and final reports. Furthermore, the Commission discussed additional items to engage the community, including a tree competition in conjunction with the Arbor Day festivities.

4. Terra-cycling

Alderman Wittmaier gave a brief overview of discussions from the December meeting. Ms. Murdock stated that she contacted the Historical Society and confirmed that they are a 501c3 and are happy to accept any donations. She noted that Skip Mange, President, described a few projects they are working on including signage for the parks, and another book.

Discussion ensued relating to education materials to be included with the receptacles to denote Terra-cycling versus regular recycling. Ms. Hultgren will continue working on the most effective way to label the receptacles.

The Commission continued discussions on school contacts and who has shown interest. As of the meeting date, Trinity Pre-School is willing to participate in the Gerber program, and Raintree School is willing to participate with a specific program to be decided.

Ms. Kuepfert suggested to the Commission to set a deadline for participation so the program can begin. She noted that other schools and churches can be added in later if they choose to do so. The consensus of the Commission was to set a deadline of January 31, 2021.

5. Chairman report

Ms. Murdock stated she received a postcard in the mail regarding a petition for a state audit of the City and queried Alderman Wittmaier for additional details. Alderman Wittmaier stated that the postcard did not come from the City nor has it been discussed amongst the Board of Aldermen. He noted that the petition is being organized by a group of residents and if the petition receives enough signatures and the audit is conducted, the cost would be absorbed by the City.

6. Adjourn

At 1:01 pm, Ms. Murdock moved to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Robson and approved.