

PUBLIC SAFETY, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2021

A Public Safety, Health and Environment Committee meeting was held on Wednesday, February 24, 2021 virtually via Zoom.

Committee Members Present: Laura M. Toy, Chair
Brandon McCullough, Vice Chair
Rob Gjonaj Donovic

Committee Members Absent: None

City Officials and Others Present: Council President Kathleen McIntyre
Mayor Maureen Miller Brosnan
City Attorney Paul Bernier
Dir. of Administration Services Dave Varga
Fire Chief Dave Heavener
Police Chief Curt Caid
Planning & Economic Dev. Mark Taormina
Communication & Marketing Kristin Houchins
City Treasurer Lynda Scheel
Chairman Human Relations Commission Sandy Teeter
Chairman Greenleaf Commission Jim Baringhaus
Janet
Brenda Swartz

See attached Attendee Report (Zoom)

The meeting convened at 7:02 p.m.

1. CR 23-21 Subject matter of sustainability in the City at an upcoming Public Safety, Health and Environment Committee meeting.

A brief history and update was provided regarding the environment and various initiatives by the Greenleaf Commission.

- They have worked with Next Door, a free neighborhood network that has grown substantially.
- They have branched into Next Door for Public Agencies, which allows the City to connect directly into Next Door neighborhood network to communicate directly with residents, allowing their voices to be heard by the City.

Discussion took place regarding the environment with a focus on recycling. Different programs are in place in the City:

- Large, curbside orange bins
- Simple Recycling for textiles and small household items to divert textiles away from landfills to be recycled into other materials.
- Tree City Committee identified native Michigan trees and why they are necessary for the ecosystem.
- Bluestem Energy and DTE was consulted to learn how to develop a renewable energy plan, learning about solar farms and the MI-Power Michigan program
- As climate changes in the City became a concern, 12 sustainability goals have been identified to focus on from the Livonia Vision Master Plan.
- QCI, LLC in Ann Arbor was visited to learn about their ideas for future recycling.
- Newsletters and social media provide Commission updates and events and awards.
- Various Greenleaf Awards have been provided to companies in the City for their green efforts.
- Livonia has been recognized by companies outside of the city for their recycling efforts.
- Plans are being made to conduct a Livonia Sustainability Town Hall and a Climate Change Survey with Livonia Residents in April
- Reviewing plans for an Electric Vehicle Event
- Recycling packets are provided to new residents.

Suggestions were made to host an energy efficiency home workshop to include different business to give tips on energy conservation.

Questions were asked if Lawrence Tech might be able to assist with electric vehicles and the idea of e-bikes was suggested.

The Committee recommends:

Receiving updates from Greenleaf Commission on Sustainability as needed.

Note: This item will remain in committee for further discussions

This item is to be placed on the **Regular Meeting Agenda of March 22, 2021**

2. CR 42-20 Subject matter of urban environment concerns to the Public Safety, Health and Environment Committee.

Discussion took place regarding forestry concerns in the City. Ideas were presented to repurpose wood and to use urban wood waste and mill. This would include assistance from adult residents and students, which could expose them to careers in natural resources and forestry.

Climate change has shifted the use of materials. More wood has been incorporated in to building structures as a substitute for more carbon intensive materials.

Michigan State has a forestry program to involve students in the process of using cross-laminated timber panels and the use sustainable waste.

Discussion on the City's weekly recycle program took place and a suggestion was made to remind and educate residents of what can and cannot be recycled.

An invitation was given to tour the STEM Teaching and Learning Facility at Michigan State University.

The Committee recommends:

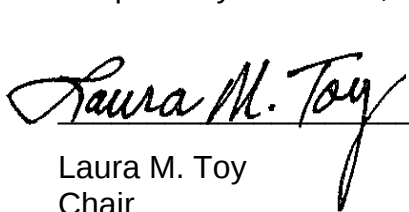
Receiving updates regarding environmental concerns as needed.

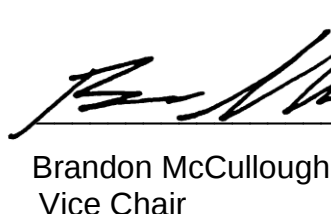
Note: This item will remain in committee for further discussions

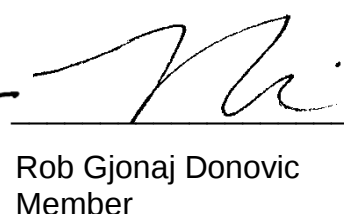
This item is to be placed on the **Regular Meeting Agenda of March 22, 2021**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Laura M. Toy
Chair


Brandon McCullough
Vice Chair


Rob Gjonaj Donovic
Member

cc: City Clerk, City Attorney

Attachment - Attendee Report (Zoom)

Public Safety Health and Environment Committee Meeting of 02/24/2021

Panelist Attendee

Kathleen McIntyre, Council President
Paul Bernier
Jim Baringhaus
Maureen Miller Brosnan
Laura Toy, Councilperson
Brandon McCullough, Councilperson
Chris
Richard K Kobe
Rob Donovic, Councilperson

Audience Attendee

Trisha Gabriel
Betsy Calhoun
John Grzebik
Maureen Miller Brosnan
Lynda L. Scheel
Charity Barnes
Mike Shesterkin
Tom Matheson
R. Hughes
LaShawn Thomas
Terry Cullum
Mrs. Mullett
Chris Last
Doug Moore
Richard K Kobe
Sam Caramagno
Nicole Mehelich
Jacob Rushlow