



**Sustainability Committee Minutes  
Thursday July 11, 2019  
7:30 A.M.  
City Hall Conference Room B**

Members Present: Julianna Johnston Senturia, Committee Chair, Council Member  
Carmen Franks, Citizen Member  
Sean P. Malone, Council Member  
Julianne Potter, Citizen Member  
Norman Robbins, Citizen Member  
Anne Williams, Council Member

Others Present: David Weiss, Mayor  
Jeri Chaikin, Chief Administrative Officer  
Michael Peters, Sustainability Coordinator  
Daniel Brown and Zoe Apestar, Rust Belt Riders  
One local student

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Julianna Johnston Senturia at 7:30 A.M.

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**Approval of the June 13, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

It was moved by Anne Williams and seconded by Sean Malone that the minutes of the June 13, 2019 meeting be approved as recorded.

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**Presentation/Q&A with Daniel Brown of Rust Belt Riders**

Daniel Brown of Rust Belt Riders presented on the upcoming residential composting program they expect to launch for Shaker Heights residents. They currently provide composting services to about 150 companies around Northeast Ohio and recently launched a community supported composting program through a drop-off site at The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes (35 Shaker Heights residents are already signed up).

Composting is an integral part of a waste management strategy as food waste is the single-largest component of landfills (and the third-largest global emitter of greenhouse gases), representing roughly 20 to 25 percent of municipal landfill waste.

Through a survey on their website they determined that Shaker Heights was a good candidate for their initial residential subscription service (Shaker Heights will be the first community where the service is offered). Once per week residents will be able to place a supplied 5-gallon container (with a biodegradable

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liner) outside for collection (and replaced with a clean container) for \$20 per month. The service is expected to be offered through their website shortly. The Nature Center service will remain and is \$5 per month. An option for multi-family residential is also contemplated.

This is an optional, privately-run service for residents and residents can continue to compost in their backyards (with a city-issued permit). Rust Belt Riders will have a customer service number and provide education to its users, including periodic classes.

This is a commercial composting service that will permit the composting of items such as meat or dairy that are not suitable for home composting. This includes the take-out containers from many of The Van Aken Market Hall vendors (including any BPI-certified products).

[Daniel Brown subsequently presented to the city's Green Team at their August meeting.]

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### **Review of Sustainability Committee Roadmap & Objectives**

Several subcommittees were formed at the prior meeting and each will provide a brief update at future meetings. Most had not met and are not yet fully-formed, but include:

- Stormwater Management (Carmen Franks) – committee formed with four members including representatives from the Doan Brook Partnership, a resident, and the Shaker Nature Center. The subcommittee will also promote the preservation and protection of natural land areas, support efforts to restore biological diversity, and encourage ecological functions.
- Renewable Energy (Norman Robbins) – reported on conversations with the schools regarding solar energy possibilities and NOPEC's 100% renewable energy option
- High School Advisory Group (Julianne Potter)
- LEED for Cities (Anne Williams)
- Recycling (TBD)

An energy efficiency discussion included a summary of electric usage (largest cost component is streetlights) and a proposed new software system to track and analyze utility use and costs. Reviewing LED streetlight possibilities (the streetlights are owned by FirstEnergy) and LED lighting retrofits for city buildings.

An overview of two proposals regarding the city's fleet included an idle management option for city vehicles and the possibility of a study to determine which of the city's vehicles would be good candidates for electric vehicles.

The city's Green Team was formed and includes a representative of the library. The first meeting is scheduled for July 14th.

Applications were prepared for several city-owned buildings for the County's Local Government and Non-Profit Solar Co-op Program and will be submitted shortly.

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**Update on LEED for Cities**

Data collection continues and external stakeholders have been engaged, with differing responses. An internal city LEED advisory group has been formed with the first meeting in August (due to vacation schedules).

An update to the U.S. Green Building Council’s ARC platform resulted in an increase in potential points towards our goal. Current focus is on determining how we complete the requirement for an Ecological Assessment.

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**Brief Discussion Topics**

Brief discussions included:

- Various forms of Committee outreach, including potentially the Van Aken Farmer’s Market and Block Parties
- The City of Charlotte’s efforts around “circularity”
- Committee communications

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 A.M. The next meeting will be Thursday, August 15, 2019 at 7:30 A.M.

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Michael Peters  
Sustainability Coordinator