**Environmental Sustainability Committee Meeting**

**September 18, 2024, 7:00 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.**

**City Hall, Work Session Room**

**Agenda**

1. **7:00 – 7:05 Call to Order and Welcome**
2. **7:05 – 7:10 Review and Adoption of the Agenda, and Consideration of the July 17, 2024, Meeting Minutes**
3. **7:10 – 7:20 Committee Member Items**
	* Community updates
	* City Board and Commission updates
	* Amanda – Urban Agriculture Zoning Amendment
	* Tim – \*\*requested a demo of the waste search tools – \*\*share link with ESC
	* Education/Efforts for recycling at FCPS
	* Faiza – Next time give the ESC a heads up
	* PRAB – Throne usage, Parks Foundation, Thaiss Park, Parks Master Plan
4. **7:20 – 7:50 Review and Discussion of Principles for Community Collaboration**
	* Education and community involvement – should be a two-way process. Enable collaboration.
	* Key components – could be part of an educational
	* Come back at future meetings and find a path forward. Programmatic collaboration that could be proposed.
	* Facilitated decision making process – example enable joint fact-finding and decision making
	* Collaboration mechanisms
	* Stepping into the middle of it – can be from new or existing items (do we have a need?)
	* At which points does the collaboration take place (beginning, middle, and/or end?)
	* Can we work on implementation?
	* Who? We should have different participant groups. It would be important to include a variety of stakeholders at different stages of the engagement. Amanda – feedback loop, Rusty – hierarchy
	* Technical assistance: avoid information gaps that may become impairments to collaboration
	* Understand how the system works, background and education needs to be provided
	* Training – how can you function properly
	* Capacity building
	* Facilitative assistance: obtain a trained facilitator – Create and evaluate their own choices
	* It’s good to have a facilitator to help with conflicts
	* Does the facilitator need to have technical expertise to avoid issues (Have SME, would be good)
	* Co-development and joint decisions
	* Review and comment – may not be the best procedures
	* Trust issues with government
	* Formal or informal process? Binding or non-binding procedures? Should it be in-person, virtual, etc.
	* How are you going to quantify facts?
	* Discussion examples: craft something that will help collaboration
	* Where does the statement of need come in? Develop a program that will do X. Now there’s a structure to come up with how we’re going to get this done.
	* List of topics – Invasive species issue – what do we do? community weed warrior teams
	* Collaboration involvement with as many stakeholders as possible. Ensure that comments given during the process are addressed. How was the citizens comments evaluated and addressed.
	* Faiza: Study and evaluation of the need. Identify the strengths and weaknesses. The need drives the process. Collaboration from inception and
	* It’s not safe to assume that we’re not in agreement that we have a climate change program. Agree that climate change is a problem.
5. **7:50 – 8:00 Public Comments**
	* Pradeep Chupra – wonder how to recycle something
	* Plan to a Climate Action \*\*Update on CAP
6. **8:00 – 8:45 Urban Forest Master Plan Stakeholder Interview**
	* What are the expectations
	* What is the result of the feedback of the meeting in July
	* Steering committee meeting was held today- for external
	* Chartered responsibility of the tree board
	* Tree Board activity
	* \*\*Engagement Plan will be sent out – share information with the entire ESC. Share presentations and information. \*\*Can stakeholders
	* ESC’s role in the urban forest: The decisions we make with some topics, it impacts other areas
	* The scope of the tree board is mostly undefined
	* Amanda – Arbor Day, invasive removal events, Fall Festival
	* \*\*Share charter with consultants – Advisor to the city council and representative
	* Charged with education with the community
	* How is the information they collect be used?
	* Information will guide development the plan
	* \*\*Share workplan and engagement plan with the committee
	* Help with the design/development – will that be used for design modifications
	* Recommendations for the role the ESC can play
	* What is the role the public play? What will the consultant do with the data collected at the meeting?
	* Transparent and noted – so they can see documented feedback
	* FAQ on public meeting – The whole meeting is on the Engage Fairfax Page
	* Stakeholder database – how often they participate
	* Online forum, forum board for online feedback. The materials will be translated.
	* \*\*Reshare the slides
	* Metrics for planning – get beyond tree canopy and look at the full spectrum of the land forest
	* Changes in the history – are we looking at that? Has that rate of decline be included in the future forecast? There will be loses in the urban forest. Will this include a forecast?
	* State of the forest, how it compares in the region, information gathering phase
	* What goals and outcomes do we want for the project – 18months – kicked off in June – Phase 1 is lots of data gathering and processing that data to determine how to move forward
	* Limitations based on cost
	* Metrics
	* Goal setting – Phase 1 – talk about what some of the goals should be
	* How do you view the UFMP?
	* The public’s view?
	* Foundational issues – don’t feel prepared to have the conversation
	* Biggest concern? Decline in tree canopy and steep increase in impervious areas
	* Development and tree canopy
	* October 17th Community meeting
	* \*\*Share questions with the ESC
	* \*\*Share slides, UFMP work plan, Engagement Plan, link to recording of the July meeting, list of questions – mid-December, clarity on ESC’s involvement with the UFMP.
	* When ready – share the summary of comments.
	* Listening session – sensitivity
	* \*Define the involvement of the ESC. Tom wants to be CC’d
7. **8:45 – 8:50 Arbor Day**
	* Sophia has been working with Faiza and Rusty, more than 1 tree planted
	* Event will be at Kutner Park
	* Who is responsible for taking care of new trees being planted
8. **8:50 – 8:55 Fall Festival**
	* Recycling game, enviroscape
	* Postcards and print materials
9. **8:55 – 9:00 Green Building Policy**
	* Council meeting July – 2 council members - raised the question mark for green buildings?
	* What is a green building? Environmental footprint – transportation demand is induced
	* Technical and popular definition – indirect effects
10. **9:00 – 9:05 Staff items**
* Comprehensive Plan Update – provide update via email
* City Manager – Urban Agriculture Tuesday at City Council
1. **9:05 – 9:15 Chairperson items**
	* Keep ESC better up to date
	* CC ESC on when stakeholder meetings – share dates
	* July 25 – be more informed about what’s going on
	* Share more information
2. **Adjourn**

*Public comments will be recognized under the “Public Comments” agenda item. Members of the public are encouraged to sign up in advance of the meeting if they would like to speak during the public comment period. Public comments will otherwise be limited to three minutes per person.*

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