



#### **KEY HIGHLIGHTS:**

1. SAB is disappointed that Lawrence has not made a decision regarding purchasing wind energy from Westar.
2. Policy research on single-use plastics is continuing to move forward.

#### **MINUTES**

**December 12, 2018 – 5:30 pm**

**MEETING LOCATION:** Parks and Recreation Administration Building in South Park, 1141 Massachusetts St, Lawrence, KS 66044

**Members Present:** Ma'Ko Quah Jones, Rachel Krause, Jessi Lee, Dale Nimz, Adam Ritchie, Travis Robinett, Michael Steinle

**Members Not Present:** Jackie Carroll, Karen Lewis, Sharon Ashworth

**Staff Present:** Jasmin Moore

**Public present:** Several members of the public were present.

- I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER: 5:35 p.m. Determine quorum of members.
- II. Approve November meeting minutes. Motion by Michael Steinle. Second by Rachel Krause. Motion passed.
- III. SAB administrative items
  - a. 2019 Appointments to SAB: Tresa McAlhaney, Kira McPherson
  - b. Bylaws review. A draft of proposed bylaws changes were distributed to SAB members in early December for consideration at the January 9, 2019 meeting. Proposed changes were based on feedback from SAB members and Resolution No. 7224, a Resolution Adopting Standard Policies and Procedures Relating to Advisory Boards and Committee and Commissions of the City of Lawrence, KS. SAB members will review the proposed changes and send comments to staff before the January 9 meeting.
- IV. Statement regarding City Manager search and value for sustainability. The search process for a new City Manager has begun. SAB members discussed the importance of having a leader with a strong value for sustainability. Travis and Sharon will draft a letter to the City Commission emphasizing the need for the next City Manager to have experience and passion for sustainability. The draft letter will be on the January 2019 SAB agenda.
- V. Update on Single Use Plastic Committee.
  - a. The Kansas Biological Survey is working with Michael Steinle to explore the local environmental impact of single use plastics.

- b. Several KU Public Administration students researched this policy topic during the Fall 2018 semester. Their research will be shared with the Chair of the SAB Single Use Plastic subcommittee in early January 2019. The subcommittee Chair will begin planning focused conversations with stakeholders in early 2019.

VI. Public Comment. A representative of the movie theater industry was in attendance and expressed his desire to be a part of a productive dialogue regarding single use plastics. A member of the public asked if SAB is also considering limiting single use plastics for commercial industries. SAB responded that the current scope of work related to plastics is examining consumer use of single use plastics at point of sale, like bags, straws, and containers, not waste associated with larger commercial packaging. A member of the public mentioned there are new plastics in development that are biodegradable. A member of the public asked if the potential policies are intended to change consumer behavior or retailers' behavior. SAB stated that the goal is to reduce the use of plastic, and a policy recommendation may affect behavior of both consumers and retailers.

VII. Staff Report

- a. Three members of SAB are completing their service. Thank you for your leadership throughout your tenure and dedication to making Lawrence a more sustainability community.
  - i. Dale Nimz, years of service to SAB 2011-2018
  - ii. Adam Ritchie, years of service to SAB 2012-2018
  - iii. Karen Lewis, years of service to SAB 2014-2018
- b. Energy Efficiency improvements to city facilities. The energy efficiency and renewable energy improvements that are a part of the Facility Conservation Improvement Program are almost complete. The measurement and verification phase will begin in early 2019.
- c. Public input is wanted for the new Police Facility and associated park. A public meeting will be held Wednesday, Dec. 19, 7:30-8:30 p.m. at the Sports Pavilion Lawrence, Legacy Room, 100 Rock Chalk Lane. The focus of this meeting will be a presentation of the preferred site layout including both police and park elements.

VIII. Discussion

- a. SAB requested an update on the single-stream commercial recycling pilot. Staff will plan an update to SAB in early 2019.
- b. The Comprehensive Plan is still under review by the Planning Commission. SAB provided comments on the plan in late 2017 and will continue to monitor progress.
- c. One of SAB's priorities is to provide feedback on the Downtown Master Plan. The Downtown Master Plan will begin public engagement process in the first quarter of 2019. The best way for SAB to find out about when and where they can engage in the process is to receive email updates, which can be done on the City's website (<https://lawrenceks.org/strategic-plan/downtown>)

- d. SAB requested an update on the Stream Buffer text amendment ordinance. Staff will plan an update to SAB in early 2019.
- e. A SAB member mentioned that several large institutions have entered into agreement with Westar to purchase wind energy, starting in 2020. SAB asked why Lawrence has chosen not to participate. Staff shared that the city is aware of the opportunity and is currently evaluating the potential impact. A decision has not been made by the city.
  - i. One of SAB's priorities is to set a net zero energy goal for the city. The Energy subcommittee may explore advancing this priority in 2019 and its relation to a renewable energy policy.
- f. There has been a lot of buzz around development of the Kaw Riverfront. SAB requested an update from staff.

#### IX. Action Items.

- a. A motion was made to send a letter to the City Commission to encourage the city to enter into a contract with Westar to purchase wind energy. Motion by Dale Nimz. Second by Rachel Krause. Motion passed.
- b. Key takeaways to share with the Commission.
  - i. SAB is disappointed that Lawrence has not made a decision regarding purchasing wind energy from Westar.
  - ii. Policy research on single-use plastics is continuing to move forward.

#### X. Future Agenda Items

- a. Bylaws- January
- b. Update on Commercial Recycling Pilot- February
- c. Update on stream buffer ordinance
- d. GHG emission update

#### XI. Member Updates

- a. Michael: Food Waste Subcommittee of Food Policy Council - research will start with KU to increase awareness of the Good Samaritan Act (state law), decreasing liability for people/businesses who give food away. [Food Donation Liability in Kansas: A Guide for Donors and Distributors](#)
- b. Adam: This is his final meeting. Thanked everyone for their service. Challenged SAB to hold each other and the board accountable. Encouraged the use of the 90/90 tool to make progress. A lot has been accomplished. Keep doing the good work!

#### XII. Adjourn: Motion by Steinle. Second by Krause. Motion passed. 6:40pm

#### **Next regular SAB meeting:**

January 9, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.

Venue: Parks and Recreation Administration Building in South Park, 1141 Massachusetts St, Lawrence, KS 66044