

Item No. 4 being:

DISCUSS AND DISTRIBUTE LETTER FROM CITY MANAGER REGARDING HERBICIDE USE

The letter from the City Manager regarding herbicide use was distributed. Members discussed alternative ways to maintain medians in Norman rather than spraying them. Pilat mentioned he has seen signage along highways or freeways identifying native wildflowers or grass as "do not mow areas". Sartain suggested ECAB create a list of a dozen featured plants that could be used in certain areas and place signage to endorse the plants. Evenson said they have struggled with a "perception" problem in no mow zones they have created. Some see the no mow zone as a riparian habitat and a positive thing while others may perceive it as weeds and an area for wildlife. Nairn suggested taking door hangers to homes that back up to no mow zone areas to educate those who live near them.

Mattingly suggested offering a pilot project around the municipal complex, documenting complaints received and compare spraying and mowing cost from one year to the next. Nairn suggested the detention pond between Building A and the Police Station as a pilot project site. The Board would like to make a request to not mow the area and see how many complaints are received. Other community groups could also be called on to assist with the project, if needed.

Evenson pointed out the golf course has riparian buffer zones along part of Merkle Creek. The city also irrigates some of the golf course with stormwater captured in an irrigation pond. Mattingly noted drainage from the University North Park area is captured and land applied at the golf course.

Bridge will prepare a rough draft response to Council thanking them for their response and let them know ECAB will work on a proposal for a pilot project. The Board would also like to know if the city has any current projects using native or drought tolerant plants and are there medians that are not sprayed, but are still vegetated.

Nairn asked to skip to the social media topic and will discuss item No. 5 after Item No. 8.

Item No. 5 being

DISCUSS POTENTIAL OEC SOLAR PANELS AT LANDFILL

Nairn said Ken Komiske recently met with Oklahoma Electric Cooperative (OEC). OEC is looking at a couple of site locations to install another solar garden in Norman, possibly on Norman Public School property or the old landfill site south of Bratcher-Miner Road. Nairn said Debbie Smith wanted to know if ECAB wants to reach out to OEC to ask some questions about the project. Depending on the site location selected, could Norman Public Schools or City of Norman benefit? Will this electricity go on the grid or could some power be used to operate the Compost Facility or UV equipment at the Water Reclamation Facility, if the old landfill site is selected. Nairn asked Rom if we would contact OEC to get more information.

McCurdy said OG&E has been asked to help reduce the electrical impact on the upcoming municipal complex remodel. OG&E is also investigating the possibility of building a universal solar farm to serve all of the municipal complex and city facilities they currently serve.

Nairn said the discussions with OEC and OG&E is a step in the right direction in getting more renewable power to the city buildings.

Mattingly suggested contacting electric scooter companies to see if they have statistics on the impact scooters save on gasoline or emissions.

Item No. 6 being:

DISCUSS SOCIAL MEDIA TOPICS

Sartain said we can start pushing the landscape award. The Google application is now set up. Sartain will send a reminder to Annahlyse Meyer that ECAB is ready to proceed.

DISCUSS LANDSCAPE AWARD

Item No. 7 being:

Same information as provided under the social media topic.

SUBCOMMITTEE FOR US MAYORS' CLIMATE PROTECTION AGREEMENT REPORT

Item No. 8 being:

Rom shared he that has been working with department heads on areas of the document where the city has already accomplished a goal, where circumstances have required modifications of the goals, or things currently in the works. He said some items may need to be retooled. He noted, as an example, Action Item 3 of the report recommended expanding and increasing the CART routes. However, with the CART structure potentially changing July 1st, it may take longer to expand or increase routes. He reported the city and OG&E are working to tighten the timeframe for all LED light poles. McCurdy stated OG&E will be meeting with staff tomorrow to discuss the LED light pole conversion. Rom said Fleet is moving towards having a mix of both CNG and electric vehicles. He said progress has been made with electric charging stations. The city is in the process of getting five Class 3 quick charging stations through a grant. He mentioned adjustments may need to be made to the recycling rate item since it is now against the law to ban plastic bags. Nairn suggested asking Mayor-Elect Clark on how she would like to proceed with this item. Rom was happy to report a recycling bin has been installed at city hall so that can be checked off the list. Rom said the apartment recycling pilot project encountered a couple of issues: (1) the apartment complexes did not want to pay for the recycling service and (2) there were issues with construction of recycling container enclosures. The Board briefly discussed the Forester and Sustainability Coordinator positions recommended in the document.

Rom said a subcommittee has met with representatives from OG&E and OEC to look at the electrical/renewable energy component of the document. He has been waiting for the legislative session to end before meeting again. He wants to learn what was accomplished in the legislative session and see what the feasibility is of ECAB moving forward.

He would like to schedule a subcommittee meeting, possibly June 12th, to review the remainder of the document to see what the City of Norman has accomplished, what is in the works, and what items might need to be placed on hold. He will send out a note to see who is interested in serving on the subcommittee.

Amanda noted a \$1 million Household Hazardous Waste Facility is in the proposed 2020 budget. Mattingly said staff recently toured the Oklahoma City Household Hazardous Waste Facility.

REVIEW ART WALK

Item No. 9 being:

Nairn said the Art Walk was awesome and thanked everyone that came to the event. She said it was one of the biggest art show turnouts and Stash wants to host it again next year. She said the Earth Day Festival was also a great event and well attended. Evenson said the five storm drain inlets painted along Main Street was a success and they are discussing plans with the Norman Arts Council for another inlet painting event next year.

MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION

Item No. 10 being:

None

Item No. 11 being

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no questions from the public.

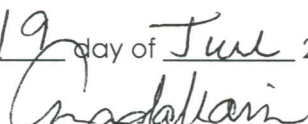
Item No. 12 being:

ADJOURNMENT

Nairn said sometimes during the summer it is hard to get a quorum at the meetings. If you know in advance that you will not be able to attend a meeting, please let Gay know so the meeting can be cancelled ahead of time. Upcoming events include the Water's Worth It proclamation in July and the subcommittee meeting in June. Evenson said if it is not raining at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, they will clean the Bishop Creek Tributary.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Passed and approved this 19 day of June 2019.



Chair, Amanda Nairn