

1. Sustainability Committee Agenda

Documents:

[SUSTAINABILTY COMMITTE AGENDA 3-12-2025.PDF](#)

2. Sustainability Committee Supporting Documents

Documents:

[FEB 2025 SUSTAINABILITY.PDF](#)



AGENDA

CITY OF CLEMSON SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

March 12th 2025

6:30-8:00PM

CLEMSON CITY HALL (Council Chambers)

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of minutes from the Feb 12 meeting.

Public Comments (3-minute limit per speaker)

Martin Hamilton Executive Director SC Botanical Garden – 2026 Sustainability Fair

Action Items

1. Motion from Energy Efficiency to recommend that some city meetings become virtual

Discussion Items

1. Subcommittee reports and discussion
NWF Wildlife Certification - Energy Efficiency - Tree Preservation
2. Staff report, CU Sustainability - Tony Tidwell
3. Berkely Orchard Report - Tony Tidwell
4. Open Discussion/New Business

Adjourn

Minutes of the Clemson Sustainability Committee
Wednesday, Feb. 12, 6:30 pm

Present: John Heilinger and Shelly Geer were present as new members. Shelly Geer, EuniceLehmacher, Bob Fennel, Reeta Singh, Cindy Hekking, Jon Heiliger, Nancy Spitler and Andrew Evans in attendance. Tony Tidwell and Chris White were representing the city.

Absent: Elaine Richardson (excused)

Reeta called the meeting to order at 6:30.

Eunice made motion to approve last month's minutes. Cindy seconded. Unanimous approval.

New members Shelly Geer and Jon Heiliger introduced themselves and shared a bit of their background.

Bob motioned that Shelly will have a 3-year term limit and Jon a 2-year term. Eunice seconded. Unanimous approval.

Public comments by Cassie Simpson, director of sustainability for graduate student government. Nina is deputy director. They are looking to work with the city to expand downtown recycling. Their committee gets funding from Graduate Student government. Also funded by eternal sources.

NWF Wildlife Certification update : 7 people signed up this month. Still need about 80 residents hopefully by earth day (April 22).

Energy Efficiency subcommittee:

Eunice reported that the subcommittee met Feb. 4 at 4pm at Nettles. They discussed long-term and short-term goals in three areas: city buildings, city services/practices, and city residents/businesses. Ideas considered were energy audits of city buildings, allowing some city virtual meetings, work from home for city employees, charging stations at key locations, having a sustainability fair and outreach materials, having energy efficiency ideas in future Community Connections, increasing residents' awareness of energy efficient appliances, adding a sustainability rider/budget item to city budget, and increasing awareness of composting. Discussed GRP Wegman Project Development agreement. Their next meeting will be Feb. 25 at 4pm at Nettles Park.

Eunice Lehmacher followed up with Assistant City Administrator regarding several of the above topics following the meeting.

Eunice made the following motion:

"I move that The Sustainability Advisory Committee recommend that the City of Clemson hire a company to do an Energy Audit of all buildings owned and utilized by the city. This assessment would include a cost benefit analysis of energy efficiency practices, and therefore, money-saving opportunities."

Cindy Hekking seconded.

Discussion followed. We understand that city policy requires three bids for any services purchased.

Unanimous approval of the motion.

Tree Sub-Committee Summary: Subcommittee has not been able to meet , but Andrew shared a handout about the tree ordinance in Clemson with the Charleston policy as well. Discussion of private/public ordinances and planned developments and the policy for them.

Staff Report : Tony Tidwell and Chris White

In addition to the written report, Tony highlighted the tree giveaway on Feb. 28. Also the city crew has distributed about 55 loads of mulch from the storm damage. He met with Clemson University Sustainability committee. They are getting a certification as an urban forest (Sustainable Forest Institute). They will be the first organization ever to be certified by this group. The upcoming university Sustainability summit was discussed. Reeta and Andrew will be attending. Tony and Chris went out to Roller Mills BBQ and Pot Belly Deli to consult on landscape design.

Virtual meeting proposal : Eunice asked to delay this proposal to next meeting. There's a current city rule that everything has to be in person. Subcommittee is still working on details. Energy efficiency committee will come back with a proposal.

Green Crescent Trail Walking event (Reeta Singh). Reeta would like to do a public event to promote the Green Crescent Trail before April 22, possibly doing it during the botanical garden's sale. April 5 is sale date. Andrew is working on an event in Hunnicutt Creek. Andrew will send an email out querying about dates.

Green Crescent Trail. Eunice made the following motion:

I move that the City of Clemson begin construction work in 2025 on the the following two segments:

- Green Crescent Trail work from Nettles Park to Tottie's place
- Berkeley Drive between Ashley Dearing Park/Tottie's Place and Frontage Road

Andrew seconded. Unanimous approval. Eunice and Chad Carson will go to City Council to present.

The group suggested ways to get all the various sustainability groups in Clemson together to share goals and objectives. There is a sustainability fair coming in 2026 and a representative would like to come to our next meeting to discuss. Eunice suggested having a sustainability summit instead of one of our meetings. All the sustainability-related groups would be invited to share their goals/objectives/projects. Tony will check and see if there's a requirement for how many times we meet. Jon is willing to do a spreadsheet of all of those groups.

Shelly brought up the recycling situation in Clemson. Are there ways we can do a better job with cardboard recycling and encouraging other recycling such as food and glass.

Meeting was adjourned at 8 pm.