

CITY OF CLEMSON SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Minutes – March 12, 2025

6:30-8:00 PM

CLEMSON CITY HALL (Council Chambers)

Reeta Called the Meeting to Order at 6:30

All Present: Shelly Geer, Eunice Lehmacher, Bob Fennel, Reeta Singh, Cindy Hekking, Jon Heiliger, Nancy Spitler, Andrew Evans, Elaine Richardson, Tony Tidwel (representing the city).

Public Comments:

Ann Fuhr:

Lives at Clemson Downs. She was impressed by the NWF effort by the sustainability Committee. She asked Chris about Mosquito Spraying, and if it would be antagonistic to this end. She has a personal anecdote about family members always watching the fireflies in clemson. But the Butterflies and Fireflies are no longer around; and a Beekeeper friend has lost all of his bees. She notices that Clemson does not practice Measure to support our pollinator wildlife, such as not raking leaves too early.

Clemson Downs would like to become a NWF certified location.

For the mosquito spraying, the City recommends that citizens keep their pets indoors and to stay inside. So she is concerned about the spray. She researched the chemicals, and as a previous cancer board member, she sees an issue with some of the chemicals within the spray.

She wants to know what people can do so that they can protect themselves and their habitat for the sake of the insects. She urges the City to look into publishing a resource to show people how to promote pollinators and how to protect themselves from mosquito bites. (Eukalyptus)

Martin Hamilton:

Botanical Gardens Executive director. Botanist/Horticulturist. SCBC plans to host a Sustainability Fair in 2026 and has applied for funding from Pickens County. The event will be the weekend after Earth Day – April 24-25 2026.

Friday 24- Invited Speakers and Social Event

Saturday - Venders local Makers, Corporations like Power Companies

Trying to get clemson extension to table and give information.

Worked in Royal Gardens in Britain - while there, saw that there are small businesses nearby. This would give a voice to local businesses who don't have a large advertising budget to sustainability minded people.

From Us, the City: Involvement, Volunteering, Businesses, Ideas, Steering Committee

Has received a letter of support from the City.

Soliciting Businesses to support this event.

The Green Crescent Trail would fit really well into the Sustainability Fair.

Cross-pollination at the conference that we plan on having would be good.

National native Seed conference, represented the SE native seed network. Impetus over the next couple of years is to spread nationwide with this effort. Rick Hoffman doing this.

Getting *Native Seed* Partner to help get out native seeds for this project; SCBC fully supports leaving habitat for pollinators as their populations crash.

We can Find Home Garden information Center through Clemson Extension.

Collaboration between the City and University for pollinator gardens would be welcome.

Action Items:

1. Motion from energy Efficiency to recommend that some city meetings become Virtual.
 - a. Tabled until next meeting

Discussion Items:

1. Subcommittee Reports:
 - a. Energy Subcommittee - They are working with City Professionals to look into their buildings energy efficiency.
 - i. S.U.N. Solar united national - in talks with this company to work together with the city
 - ii. Chad Carson Prepared a Motion/Proposal Document to work on the GCT development
 - iii. LED Audits / Pricings are currently underway
 - iv. Will Meet again Next Thursday at 3PM
 - b. NWF - Will meet in 2 weeks
 - i. Tony now has the login for NWF
 - ii. 97 / 200 Points - Halfway there
 - iii. Ashley Dearing, Gateway, Mountain View, Clemson Park all Certified

- iv. Want to Do more with Certifying with individual homeowners (Focus on Clemson Downs Outreach)
- v. We want to do an event at Kite Hill Brewing / Farmers Market at Patrick Square (April-November)
- vi. University Baptist Church
- c. Tree Sub Committee
 - i. Shared Pamphlet for Tree Protection - Needs to Be Approved / QR Code Added
 - ii. Wants to Look at Greenville Tree Ordinances

2. Staff Report

- a. Clemson Still Recycles Cardboard - Community Members need to Sign up for the list every week for Cardboard Recycling. (Could we have flyers on Cans for Cardboard. Can take to Kite Hill / Public Works
- b. Eagle Scout Project at 12 mile Park went well - Created ¼ mile Nature Trail - loop trail for Shelter 2
- c. Tree Giveaway went well, Gave away 427 this year, total of 1400 trees for years since began. Planted 100 Tree's on public property
 - i. Want to do another one this Fall
 - ii. Duke only sponsors 1 per year.

3. Clemson University Sustainability Commission - Tony

- a. National sustainable forest audit passed for the university.
- b. Trying to combine their sustainability data and make it public.
- c. University will remain focused on environmental wellbeing.
- d. Focus on Resilience.
- e. Committee will Continue to work on a list of goals.

4. Berkeley Orchard - A Habitat Forage - in the south forest

- a. Getting away from Herbicides, and fossil fuels a nature based Park
- b. City is open to Stream restoration
- c. Unity Park had a flood during helene and it was well Designed

New Business:

- 1. Discussion on Recycling:
 - a. The city is still recycling glass at the Public Works facility. (Answered from Feb. Meeting)
 - b. Aluminum can be recycled anywhere pretty much including at Kite Hill and the county recycling centers. Can Recycle at Firehouse on Issaqueena to support Charity.
- 2. Botanical Gardens April 4,5,6 - 2025 - Friends of the Garden Sale

John motions to Adjourn, Andrew seconds that Motion, Unanimous Approval