

**City of Clemson Sustainability Committee Meeting
August 13, 2025**

Present: Reeta Singh, Shelley Geer, Bob Fennel, Nancy Spitler, John Heiliger, Andrew Evans, Nanda Edgerton, Cindy Hekking. Tony Tidwell representing the City. Eunice Lehmacher, (absent)

Public comments:

Call to order by Reeta Singh at 6:30 pm.

Motion to approve July minutes. Shelly motioned to approve the minutes with the correction that the Energy Efficiency Rider was approved. Andrew seconded. Unanimous vote to approve.

Public Comments

Cody Lingerfelt not able to be present due to illness. Representatives from Clemson Downs shared concerns about mosquito spraying and ability to opt out.

Action Items

none

Discussion Items

1. Working group reports and discussion

NWF Wildlife Certification - Cindy Hekking reported on a zoom meeting. NWF certification numbers up to 131 points. Subcategories done except for habitat and web page. Plans include updating brochure. Looking at certification day at Clemson Downs.

Energy Efficiency - Eunice presented at City Council last night (8/12). Well received. Questions about Green Crescent Trail. Discussion on energy efficient appliances.

Natural resources - Andrew has a meeting tomorrow (8/14) with Ali Sloan, head of Community Foundation, to discuss establishing a conservation fund for the area. Minimum required amount to establish a fund is \$5,000. Nanda mentioned approaching corporations for that seed funding. Can we do that using CCF's 501-C3 status? Need to confer with Ali Ganntt if public property is involved. Andrew would like to update tree page on city web site. Tony will work with Sarah on updates.

2. Staff report, CU Sustainability - Tony Tidwell

No update on this due to summer hiatus.

Storm damage cleanup from recent storm. Heavy requests for tree trimming. 12 mile park— city entered a contract with company to remove hazardous trees. Looking at maintenance on SCDOT right of ways.

Phase 2 of Clemson Skate Park. Work to begin in October (J Davis, contractor).

Presentation last night about Abernathy Park. Open house for public August 26.

Spider lift to work for trimming. Bids close 8/19.

Mulch can be picked up or delivered; fee for delivery is around \$10/mulch, charged to water bill.

3. Review Code of Ethics and Conduct for Elected and Appointed City Officials.

Nanda requested clarity on the section on sanctions. Does that section apply to city employees as well, appointed officials? (Policy states elected or appointed, not hired.)

4. Review Key points and logistics for GCT walk this fall. Eunice is taking lead on this, working with Chad Carson. Discussion for next meeting. October 12 could be a good date — fall break for University.

5. Review Sustainability Summit (rename to Forum) letter for final edit to mail to participants. Shelly will handle RSVPs. Andrew will send letter out to committee for input by August 15. (Summit on October 8). Goal to send out Wednesday, August 27, with a reminder on September 3.

6. Open Discussion/New Business

- Shelly brought up communicating information about cardboard recycling to keep it from getting picked up as trash.
- Nanda brought up a suggestion from Rupert Bindi that we educate ourselves about hybrid inverters. These feed off solar panels at your house and plug into breaker box.
- Nanda also shared a comment from Stephanie Platt regarding wildlife habitat certification. How can the city consider itself a wildlife sanctuary if habitats are being destroyed with development. Tree City USA only considers publicly owned properties. National Wildlife certification with city is for park system.
- Next meeting Joan Rossini from the Arts Center will be our speaker.

Andrew moved to adjourn. Cyndi seconded. Reeta adjourned the meeting at 7:50.