

The Prairie Village Environmental Committee met at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday January 22, 2025 in the Prairie Village City Hall multipurpose room. The recording secretary was Amy Brooks.

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m.

Members in attendance: Vice Chair Chi Nguyen, Johanna Comes, Melinda Lewis, Penny Mahon, Travis Wymore, Travis Carson, Piper Reimer, Brynn Bettenhausen, Magda Born, Dave Huyett, Tamara McMahon, Rick Wohfarth, Nathan Kovac, Amy Brooks, and staff liaison Ashley Freburg.

Approval of the Agenda

Travis Wymore moved to approve the agenda, and Rick seconded the motion. The committee voted unanimously to approve the agenda as written.

Approval of the December 2024 Meeting Minutes

Rick moved to approve the December 2024 minutes; Piper seconded the motion. The committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

Presentation

Johanna spoke about the documentary “Hot Times in the Heartland” about the climate crisis in Kansas (available on YouTube), the International Relations Council, Resilient Activists, and KC Farm volunteer opportunities.

Old Business

1. **CDP Reporting Update** – Ashley announced that there was no update yet. The city is still awaiting its score for the most recent reporting period.
2. **T-shirts** – Ashley confirmed that t-shirts have been ordered; they will be here before the next meeting.

Old Business

1. **Climate Action KC Summit** – The Climate Action KC Summit will be April 5 from 1-5 p.m. After discussion, Travis Wymore made a motion to sponsor the Climate Action KC Summit at the \$500 level. Magda seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
2. **NEJC Fall Recycling Event** – The event will be Oct 11, 2025. This year, the organizers are requesting four volunteers from Prairie Village to help alleviate the workload of Merriam staff. Piper, Tamara, Amy, and Nathan committed to volunteering. Piper suggested financial commitment should be based on Prairie Village’s size and attendance of event. Tabled for further discussion at the next meeting.
3. **Go Green** - Chi discussed the Go Green volunteer responsibilities with Nathan. Nathan indicated that meetings at 10:00 a.m. on Fridays may be difficult to attend. Chi will get with Terri from GoGreen to inquire if attendance is required at the meetings, or if an alternative option is available.
4. **VillageFest** - Staff needs to know if the committee is interested in doing the craft and monarch display again at VillageFest. After discussion the committee agreed to participate with Nathan spearheading the craft while Johanna and Piper lead the monarch efforts. Many members indicated they would be in town that weekend to support this year. Seed balls and Recycle Right stickers were popular and

recommended to do again. Piper volunteered to check the accuracy of the recycling stickers to current specifications. We still have a lot remaining, and can hand out at upcoming events. If changes have occurred, we will discuss how best to edit/alter.

5. **JazzFest:** The committee discussed whether to participate with a booth at JazzFest again this year. Committee members felt the booth has not generated a lot of interest recently. Piper suggested shifting focus to composting for the festival's food vendors. Missouri Organic has done events with composting available. Travis Wymore volunteered to reach out and start discussions with the JazzFest committee.
6. **Deep Roots Native Plant Sales:** There are two sales planned for Prairie Village. The first will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 12. The second will be 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. September 13. Both will be in the City Hall parking lot. The committee discussed the possibility of setting up the monarch booth.
7. **OP Recycling Extravaganza:** The Overland Park Recycling Extravaganza will be from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 26 at the Black & Veatch parking lot. The event will need volunteers.
8. **Awards & Recognition:** Greg to discuss at next meeting
9. **Sustainability Grant for Educational Institutions:** Melinda presented the PV Educational Institution Sustainability Grant proposal. Any Prairie Village schools could apply for money for environmental sustainability improvements/initiatives. It is designed to give incentives to students to make positive environmental changes. There was discussion of capping each grant award at \$500. After more discussion, Rick made a motion to create the grant program. The motion was seconded by Magda, and all were in favor. A subcommittee formed to further discuss the details of the program including budget and timing. The subcommittee is Melinda, Travis Wymore, Penny, and Rick.
10. **Mayor's Monarch Pledge:** Piper made a motion to participate in the pledge for 2025. Nathan seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Announcements

1. Next meeting: February 26, 2025. The secretary will be Melinda

Adjournment

Piper Reimer moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Magda. All were in favor.

Adjourned at 6:23 p.m.