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**CITY OF FOREST GROVE
SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION
ZOOM WEBINAR & COMMUNITY AUDITORIUM
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2021 – 6:00 P.M.**

MEETING MINUTES Approved by Commission on November 18, 2021.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Nieves called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM.

Sustainability Commission Present:

Elena Uhing

Tonya Johnson

Amber Nieves

Johanna Peeters Weem

Greg Arrigotti

Steven Barnard

Robin Lindsley

Absent, Unexcused: None

Absent, Excused: Ed Uecker, Fallon Harris

Staff: Paul Downey, Elizabeth Stover

Guests: Ellen Hastay

- 1. Community Communications:** None.
- 2. Commissioner Communications:** Chair Nieves read the Sustainability Commission mission statement: Using all resources (societal, economic, and natural) in an efficient and equitable manner. Sustainability in Forest Grove means considering long-term environmental, economic, and social impacts of our actions. Sustainability prioritizes long-term needs over short-term gains to ensure that resources necessary to sustain life are available now and in the future. Lindsley stated that a few Councilors had a tour of the Dairy Creek Community Food pantry garden. Peeters Weem updated on the high school's clothing pantry, and that the Council will meet on November 22 to discuss youth involvement in the community. Nieves announced she will not be renewing her term on the commission.
- 3. Consent Agenda & Review Minutes:** Nieves moved to approve September minutes. Lindsley seconded. Unanimously approved.
- 4. Agenda Additions/Deletions:** None.
- 5. Mini-Grant Application, Ellen Hastay:** Hastay presented the Dairy Creek Cookbook project to the commission. Members had a discussion around the sustainability of producing the cookbooks, equity in the distribution and accessibility, where the mini-grant funds would be directed and how it would be tracked, and measured against the mini-grant rubric. Nieves moved to vote no, Peeters Weem seconded, and Lindsley recused herself. The commission voted no; however, the members were open to reviewing a revised mini-grant application from Hastay. Nieves to provide comments to staff, and staff to forward information to Hastay.
- 6. Mini-Grant Community Education Opportunities:** Commission discussed avenues to communicate to the community about the availability of mini-grant funds. Johnson to work with staff to create messaging that can be used across various communication channels.
- 7. Burn Plan Discussion:** Peeters Weem updated the Commission on the Burn Plan subcommittee progress. Councilor Uhing and Downey discussed expectations for a commission recommendation to Council. Staff to provide a research/report outline to the commission as a template.

- 8. Council Liaison Report:** Uhing updated the commission regarding: community events, Support Housing Services, Homeless Plan Advisory Committee efforts, Communication Plan, Site B, aquatics center changes, board and commission interviews, American Rescue Plan Act funds, and Smart Cities. Arrigotti asked to what extent the Council would like to see the City of Forest Grove become a Smart City. Uhing requested the commission review and provide recommendations as to its feasibility.
- 9. Staff Report:** Downey updated the commission regarding: Fresh Foods, American Rescue Plan Act, Economic Development Coordinator and Program Coordinator positions, Metro's solid waste changes, Development Services Annex and City Hall renovation, Community Garden relocation, and the replacement levy. Stover updated regarding the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Plan.
- 10. Future Agenda Topics:** For the November meeting:
 - Burn Plan
 - Messaging: mini-grant funds outreach
 - Smart Cities
 - Recycling Modernization Act guest speaker
- 11. Adjournment:** Nieves adjourned the meeting at 7:57 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Stover, Program Coordinator

City of Forest Grove

Approved by the Forest Grove Sustainability Commission: Date: 18 November 2021