

# City of Norcross

65 Lawrenceville Street  
Norcross, GA 30071



## Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 9, 2018  
6:00 PM

2nd Floor Conference Room

### **Sustainable Norcross Commission**

*Jolyn Barrow, Board Member*

*Bea Grossman*

*Bruce Gaynor*

*Carl Redman*

*Laura Hernandez*

*Linda DeMaris*

*Michael Brose*

**A. Call to Order**

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Jolyn Barrow	Board Member	Remote	
Bea Grossman	Board Member	Present	5:53 PM
Bruce Gaynor	Board Member	Late	6:16 PM
Carl Redman	Board Member	Present	5:51 PM
Laura Hernandez	Board Member	Present	5:50 PM
Linda DeMaris	Board Member	Present	5:47 PM
Michael Brose	Board Member	Present	5:54 PM

Regular Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Board Member Bea Grossman

**B. Approval of Previous Meetings Minutes****a. Sustainable Norcross Commission - Regular Meeting - Apr 11, 2018 6:00 PM**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Bea Grossman, Board Member
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Linda DeMaris, Board Member
<b>AYES:</b>	Barrow, Grossman, Gaynor, Redman, Hernandez, DeMaris, Brose

**C. Old Business****1. Recycling Efforts at Apartments**

Front load room; Cotton Cotton Gin put in carts; apparently Advanced will not do mixed recycling in anything but using carts; Mary Beth and Bea have meeting w/ Matt Nichols at Advanced; West Rock developers plan to incorporate recycling for the commercial part of their devlp. In Norcross; waiting for pricing  
Greater Community Grant - Hannah looking into for recycling  
Impact Environmental - waste audits; Laura and has contact to help the city start apt. recycling;  
Laura shared a bag that Athens/Clark Co. provides with info of what is/not to be included.  
Need to get stats on glass recycling volume

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>DISCUSSED</b>
----------------	------------------

**2. Crowdsourcing Solar**

Bea spoke to but they're busy with ATL and Carrolton implementation of solar; he will forward a plan for Norcross; how to move forward; chat with Mary Beth and meeting with key stakeholders.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>DISCUSSED</b>
----------------	------------------

**3. 2018 Events**

Have tri-fold brochure to share with community.

Sean Casey, Jim Woods and Carl Redman contacted the owners of Dominick's and attorney representing family who owns building declined offer to add vertical wall to the HBR side of building; approached owner just to start process of determining the cost/location, etc. before approaching the city council; Example was ~\$60K for install and potential one-year maintenance; continuing the exploration of where a wall can be installed. Jim talked with architect for the West Rock project; Discovery Garden Park second lot is possible location too; Hannah mentioned that a letter from the attorney went to the city and they didn't know the owners had been contacted; need to let city know when we're communicating with third parties.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>DISCUSSED</b>
----------------	------------------

#### 4. **Straw Campaign**

Laura: get the downtown businesses to give out straws on demand and if they experience a cost savings they switch to disposable straws; need to get Cate Kitchen involved; Bea will introduce Laura to Cate to get the conversation going; Carl mentioned that DDA could be involved due to their involvement with new businesses, etc.

Cate would be able to help Laura come up with short list of restaurants; partnering with city to promote including table tents and brochures/posters; then some education to the servers and promo leading to press releases and including info on the website. Could be saving 100K straws from going to landfill.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>DISCUSSED</b>
----------------	------------------

#### 5. **Bee City Campaign/Certification**

I met with Tixie on Friday and we discussed the following:

- Tixie is going to provide information on local growers.
- She is going to get a free a display from USDA and bee information brochures that we can give out at the Farmers Market booth during Pollinator Week.
- We identified a few areas to make pollinator friendly.
- Discussed a bee hotel community project and possibly working with Summerour Middle School students (with school out soon this will need to be on hold)
- Having a "build bee house" community event.
- Creating a webpage to link to the city website; and a Facebook page.
- Help residents create pollinator friendly yards.

As for the certification process, we need to identify the Norcross government department as the sponsor and an employee from that department as the liaison with Bee City USA. Of course most action items will be done through SNC but they need a government employee as a contact. City council will be presented a resolution for pollinator city; Michael will fill out the certification but need to get representative from city and department and who that would be; celebrate a pollinator week and one day do some event and can do at community market. Has USDA brochure for handouts; we'll hand out at market; identify areas in the city where bee friendly where plants are available throughout the year with habitat to live and be undisturbed; least toxic pesticides have to be proven;

need to check with Meryl to ensure the city's landscape companies are using the Integrated pest management - treat the problem not just the area. Hannah offered to make available the Integrated plan and the resolution for bee hives on the resident properties was passed at the same time as the chicken allowance.

A web page with link to the resolution; could just create a Fb page to link; could have campaign to certify yards are bee friendly; Bea suggested that maybe ARB could be involved to encourage new construction use bee friendly plantings and also partner with Discover Garden Park; next step to draft the resolution matches with the plants; resolution can be given to Josh for included on Policy and then to council. Need to add signage that bee city certified if meet requirements.

<b>RESULT:</b> <b>DISCUSSED</b>
---------------------------------

## 6. **Lillian Webb Park Pad 2 Meeting Updates**

Meeting with NPAC, Dan Watch and Dan's intern to present ideas for open air building and Dan's trying to get feedback from residents; could be on slab; could recycle bricks from West Rock; could include living wall; intern is supposed to send email with feedback option; rendering showed example of partial second floor. Dan is taking it to small groups to generate interest for the buy in. Eventually present to public overall.

<b>RESULT:</b> <b>DISCUSSED</b>
---------------------------------

## D. **General Updates**

### 1. **Bike/Ped**

<b>RESULT:</b> <b>DISCUSSED</b>
---------------------------------

### 2. **ARC Measures Status from City**

Hannah mentioned people are struggling to keep their head above water; partnering with, for example, how the board could help more with the planning of events; Jessica doesn't have any knowledge of the healthy housing efforts needed. Hannah will identify a better way to proceed with their sustainability efforts; Bea suggested Hannah identify specific areas of concern and where we can guide; need Suzanne's guidance as well; Connie mentioned the ARB, regarding housing, that could assist. Hannah is proposing a requesting an intern to help with a project; Bea mentioned recycling efforts and get a deep dive into stats and efforts to promote on both sides of Buford Hwy. Laura suggested an intern could have feet on the ground campaign to pass out OOPs tags; Carl suggested if more pressing need, Hannah needs to provide info.; Bea mentioned a Mari and Suzanne meeting and Mari leaving town and they went through the spreadsheet.

<b>RESULT:</b> <b>DISCUSSED</b>
---------------------------------

### 3. **Farmer's Market**

Connie still seeking volunteers; have prelim banner mock up; Connie needs help to keep up with media demands, marketing, advertising, etc.

Top three needs: Social Media, outreach to seniors and day of market help/volunteer.

**RESULT: DISCUSSED**

#### 4. Council Meeting Updates

Monday need to look at the upcoming bik/ped SRTS

**RESULT: DISCUSSED**

#### E. Sustainability Consultant/Coordinator Updates

Apply for grant for energy efficiency devices for 135 unit apartments; denied and will try again and Suzanne working with people who won the grant to get insight on how they won to help city with resubmission.

#### F. New Business

##### 1. Walk Friendly Certification

- 1) Due June 15 - likely not make if Jolyn is contact - will try for December 15<sup>th</sup> deadline and plan better.

**RESULT: DISCUSSED**

##### 2. Bruce Gaynor's End of Term

Will re-up term and will copy team on communication to inform Monique Lang.

**RESULT: DISCUSSED**

##### 3. Keeper of SNC Table, Brochures, Banners, Ect.

**RESULT: DISCUSSED**

##### 4. Expanding Outdoor Activities for Seniors

Carl: difficult undertaking because of the weather conditions; heat/cold; Carl visited Best Friend Park and doesn't have something specific for seniors. None of the parks offer anything for seniors; Johns Creek Park Place offers lots of events; Norcross Senior Center offers some programs but seniors seemed less mobile; Carl would like to reach out to Cate to request buy in Silver Sneakers program. Backed by Medicare Advantage Plan - participant can go to gyms, etc., for free or low cost and paid by insurance companies. Carl will contact Donna Moresco from Yoga studio.

**RESULT: DISCUSSED**

##### 5. Update on Gwinnett County Transit Meeting

Bruce attended meeting - info presented was repeat of other earlier meetings; expanding bus routes and implementing, if all goes through, for BRT; plan is 30 year; 1<sup>st</sup> phase - upgrading bus routes; phase 2 add/layering BRT to Doraville; Phase 3 - idea of laying out rail but not for anywhere around 10 years. Not one negative voice; just asking about how to accomplish in shorter timeline or explore alternative ideas. One driver is traffic volume and second transit drives development. Need to press on the board of supervisors to vote in November to get going.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>DISCUSSED</b>
----------------	------------------

## 6. Update from Recent WestRock Community Meeting

357 parking slots; retrofit existing buildings lofts (200 apts. 50+ condo) will build similar NGBS certified, similar to LEED. Could add pool, ground level and 21K sq ft park space with public access; They will have bike pool program; \$10-20; car charging stations; guaranteed recycling will be part of the complex. First rentals by mid 2019 and completed with apartments by 2020.

Hannah mentioned the city is talking to the railroad to have no whistle blowing through town; but involves city paying extra for intersections to ensure cars cannot cross tracks; \$250K/crossing

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>DISCUSSED</b>
----------------	------------------

## G. ADDITIONAL INPUT AND/OR DISCUSSION NOT OTHERWISE ADDRESSED BY THIS AGENDA

Laura - presented some recycling demo to show % of household items that can be recycled including mail-in recyclables.

CW: Pill bottles will be collected for Dog Days of Summer

Does Sonya have any stats on recycle day; asked Hannah to request info

## H. Adjourn

The meeting was closed at 8:19 PM

## I. Agenda Items