



INDEPENDENCE ★ MISSOURI ★

A GREAT AMERICAN STORY

Sustainability Commission Minutes

February 12, 2026 5:00 PM

Truman Memorial Building - 416 W. Maple Ave

CALL TO ORDER

- A. Tony Sommer called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM.

ROLL CALL

- A. Attendance: Tony Sommer, chair, Madalyn Osborn, secretary, Carly Young, Dan McGraw, and Josh Eis, staff. **The commission has one vacancy.**

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- 1. January 15, 2026, Meeting Minute Approval

- A. The minutes of the January meeting were approved as distributed. (Osborn, Young).

OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Award for local business or individual update

- A. Commission is in agreement that we would like to award each of the three nominees, as there was one individual, one business, and one group nominated
- B. Earth day is April 22nd, closest council meeting to Earth Day is when we would like the proclamation/award to be given out
- C. Voting took place with all members voting “yes” to award each nominee for the

- Sustainability Award this year – Bold ReUSE (business), West iNd Connection (group), Wes Epperson (individual)
- D. Josh will reach out to put award on appropriate Council meeting agenda
 - E. Commission will continue to make it a priority to market and advertise the award for next year

2. Award information:

<https://form.jotform.com/240734299067060>

<https://www.independencemo.gov/government/city-departments/municipal-services/environmental-programs/sustainability-award>

Sustainability Commission information:

<https://www.independencemo.gov/government/city-departments/boards-and-commissions/current-boards-and-commissions/sustainability-commission>

3. Bike Ride of Historic Places – Postponed

- 1. Frontiers museum
- 2. Railroad Museum
- 3. Bingham Waggoner
- 4. Chicago Alton Depot

4. KC Can Compost Information Update

- A. Commission would like to continue to pursue recommending a pilot program to the City
- B. Would like to select one or two community locations that bins could be placed at
- C. Initial location ideas (old City Hall, Independence Municipal Commons, Sermon Center, parking lot space at or near the Uptown Market, Palmer Center)
- D. Questions – is smell an issue with the bins? How / which department would be funding the pilot? If only using 1-2 cans, it likely does not need Council approval
- E. Can take a phased approach at ‘warming up’ the idea of a compost program, start by tabling at the farmer’s market to present information this spring and summer
- F. Would like to set up a survey or see if the City has also sent a survey related to this, to gauge interest in a pilot program
- G. Unsure if we will be able to get SWMD grant, keep in mind but likely will need to focus on City funded program

NEW BUSINESS

1. 2026 Commission priorities

Focus on gaging interest in Compost Collection Pilot Program, between residents and the Council

A. Before next meeting

- a. Look for last Community Survey to see if there is any data / response related to composting/waste management
- b. Ask about the ability to get a table or booth at the Farmer's Market (Josh)
- c. Draft survey to gauge interest/comments for composting (Maddy)

Next Meeting - Wed March 11, 2026 5pm

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:50pm