City of Oregon

Sustainability Ad Hoc Committee Meeting

The Sustainability Ad Hoc Committee met Wednesday September 9th, 2026, at 9 am.

Present: Tim Benedict, Melanie Cozzi, Darin DeHaan, Cheryl Hilton, Joyce Lewis, Tom Pacey, Steve Rypkema, and Vic Zaderej.

Meeting called to order at 9:00 am.

No public comment.

Melanie Cozzi moved to approve the minutes of August 10th, 2026, Seconded by Tim Benedict.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Eco Oregon: The committee discussed starting to work with and sign-up businesses for the program. Steve and Melanie both stated the online application was easy to navigate and all the links worked. Melanie said a long-term goal could be to have a "sister" city or county to collaborate with. They also discussed program tiers and awards.

Rock River Clean-Up: The committee discussed refuse drop-off locations, creating electronic waivers and attendance tracking for next year, and reviewed the map. They planned to meet at Kiwanis Park at 7:30am to pick up supplies and then go to designated locations. Tom and Steve will put up cones Friday night.

2nd Street Native Plants: The Oregon Park District is willing to do the prescribed burns. Darin will be sending out a letter next week to inform residents of the project. The committee discussed educating residents and applying for grants to help fund the project. The committee needs to begin discussing a potential budget for future projects and present it to the City Council. The budget will help when looking for grants and will show the city is behind the committee.

Meeting adjourned at 10:13 a.m.

Submitted by City Clerk Cheryl Hilton