

7:30am to 9:00am at EHRA's offices

Attendees on September 11, 2018

Auggie Campbell	Travis Sellers	Carmen Kumpula	Justin Goodman
Jim Russ	Imani Forrest	Peter Huinker	
Natalie Weiershausen	Maurice Mullaly	Aaron Evans	

1. **Welcome/Introductions**Jim Russ
2. **Sustainability Stars**Jim Russ
 - a. Applications: Cross Creek Ranch (JDC); Queenston Apartments (EHRA)
 - i. *The committee reviewed the Sustainability Stars Applications of Cross Creek Ranch and Queenston Apartments. The committee discussed that Queenston Manor's underground rain tanks that are also used for irrigation are very impressive. The system saved money on not constructing the retention facility and were able to add 48 extra units. The buyback would be made in less than a year. The committee discussed that it would be beneficial to have a side-by-side cost comparison.*
 - ii. *Weiershausen reported that both applications seem like good recipients. Cross Creek Ranch may need more ecological and financial information. The committee thought it would be beneficial to know what the economic benefit and water cost reduction from using their system would be. Another important question to answer would be if there has been an increase in residents who find this concept more appealing. The committee discussed the need to present these projects in a way that the public audience can understand as well as the industry. Our committee will need to explain what this means to the public and why they should care.*
 - iii. *Weiershausen reported that the polishing pond that is also used as an amenity makes this project stand out. Russ reported that the pond will need to have enough movement to keep bugs from breeding. Campbell reported that Cross Creek Ranch has many bird species that are native and migratory species. The committee thought that Cross Creek Ranch should also consider applying for the investigation star.*
 - iv. *Huinker reported that knowing the numbers for the amount of water reuse (gallons saved) would be valuable information to obtain. HOA and MUDs would be impressed to see the information on water savings.*

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- v. *Kumpula reported that she will reach out to have representatives from each project to attend the October committee meeting for further application discussion.*
- vi. *The committee discussed that it will be a important to have a good library of projects. The library should display data to showcase sustainability practices and how they are already being implemented.*

b. Awards

- i. *Kumpula reported that the awards can be ordered after the November meeting. The same awards will be ordered for the same price of \$98 per award or \$93 if we order more than six. Kumpula will also get ideas for a matching outside place for recipients to put near walking paths.*

3. **Committee Business**.....Jim Russ

- a. *The committee discussed that their continued focus should be to educate the public on sustainability. The committee hopes to keep promoting the Sustainability Stars Award. These practices will not solve problems completely but are items in the toolbox to help with flooding and droughts.*
- b. *Evans reported that communicating what it is we are educating will also be an important aspect of raising awareness. Everyone has a different definition of sustainability. A helpful technique will be to show an example of each star seperately to simplify the message. The committee discussed creating an easy and digestable packet to send WHA members and officials. Officials and county engineers will be able to steer people in this direction. Russ reported that it will be important to push the private side to get sustainable practices implemented and the public will follow. The committee discussed creating a syllabus for 2019 as an outline for our committee’s main points.*
- c. *Evans suggested having the award recipients put a sign with the Sustainability Stars Award in their leasing offices and even outside by the projects for residents to see. Russ reported that our award is more specific to Houston. The committee discussed that the earlier stars are harder to find applicants for because the projects are typically not ready to be seen yet.*
- d. *Mullaly reported that when publishing the award recipients to WHA’s website it would be beneficial to include more explanation of why they received the award. Mullaly reported he will start thinking about the best way to implement this.*
- e. *Goodman asked if the committee plans on expanding the recipients to vertical development and if an adjustment to the application would be necessary. Weiershausen reported that typically vertical development will require a horizonatl aspect which will fit into the existing qualifications. The committee also discussed highlighting techniques that have been around for a while and are working well.*

4. **Adjourn**

Mission Statement

Sustainable infrastructure enhances the long term economic, social, and environmental outcomes of development and infrastructure within the greater West Houston Association region. The committee’s mission is to advocate for the use of sustainable infrastructure concepts throught the education of members and stakeholders and recognition of projects and practices.

2018 WHA SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE
All Meetings at EHRA Offices, 7:30 am

Tuesday, February 13
Tuesday, March 13
Tuesday, April 10
Tuesday, May 8
Tuesday, June 12

Tuesday, August 14
Tuesday, September 11
Tuesday, October 9
Tuesday, November 13
Tuesday, December 11



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