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TO: City Council
FROM: Sam Anselm, City Manager
DATE: July 24, 2015
RE: Weekly Report

Good afternoon, everyone. Please see below for a list of this week's happenings. As usual, let me know if you have any questions.

Key Meetings

- On Monday, Interim Director Scott Garrie and I met with Cookie Estrada from the Joplin Family Y to touch base on some of their plans and initiatives, and to get an update on what we have going on.
- On Monday afternoon, Director Haase and I met with representatives from the Redings Mill Fire District to discuss recent payments to the district. We will be working with Newton County officials to make sure that land transactions are recorded in the tax books in a timely fashion to allow us to remit payment to the district around the first of each calendar year.
- On Tuesday the Infrastructure Team (Deloitte and city staff tasked with overseeing the CDBG-DR infrastructure projects) met with the JET group to review their list of projects in the recovery area. All three engineering firms have submitted their projects for prioritization by staff, and we have scheduled a meeting for the week of August 3rd to finalize the list for inclusion with a future action plan.
- On Wednesday morning I met with Interim Superintendent Norm Ridder so we could make introductions and help his transition to Joplin go as smoothly as possible. We discussed the early childhood center project, as well as other projects in the works that affect the school district.
- Following my meeting with Dr. Ridder, I met with Brad Belk to discuss a variety of topics related to the museum.
- On Wednesday afternoon I had a meeting with Sharon Beshore and Clifford Wert to discuss the status of Memorial Hall and to get an update on where the Connect2Culture group stands with regard to their architectural plans for the facility. Now that we have booked two events at Memorial Hall they were somewhat concerned about the availability of the venue for their desired purposes, but I believe there's time and room to utilize the facility until a long term plan can be developed, and if there's an opportunity to bring multiple groups together for the shared purpose of growing our arts, culture and entertainment footprint in Joplin, that is something that should be explored.

- I followed that meeting by attending the Connect2Culture board meeting later in the afternoon, where I expressed the same opinion. Ultimately what happens to Memorial Hall will be up to the city council to decide, but there seems to be some positive energy and discussion taking place within the community, so I'm excited to see where that momentum takes us.
- Yesterday, Mayor Seibert, PIO Lynn Onstot and I met with representatives from Catholic Charities of Southwest Missouri to get an update on where they stand with efforts and initiatives in Joplin, and to discuss an exciting grant opportunity they have that will benefit area residents. CCSOMO will be putting out a press release with additional details, so I do not want to steal any of their thunder, but the meeting served as a reminder that work still continues regarding our recovery from 2011.
- Earlier this morning, I met with Councilman Stanley, Mayor Seibert, City Attorney Edwards and a local developer to discuss an affordable multi-family housing project that would utilize the MHDC's Low Income Housing Tax Credit program. You may recall that in 2011 Joplin was the recipient of most of the LIHTC program funding to assist with our housing recovery efforts post-tornado, and this developer wanted to visit with us to share details of the project. Next week, I will have our planning staff review the information for a response to the developer as he applies for the funding.

Miscellaneous

- As indicated last week, the RFP for the affordable senior housing development is online on our website (link: <http://joplinmo.org/bids.aspx?bidID=254>). We have reached out to several interested developers, and an ad will also run in this weekend's edition of the Globe. Responses will be due to the city on November 24th to allow plenty of time for potential respondents to conduct a housing study, prepare materials, and ask questions of staff. Speaking for them, we are certainly excited to finally be at this stage.
- To give you an update on online payments...they account for about 33% of all payments made through our courts system. As for utility bills, monthly totals hover around the 2,000 mark, which represents about 10% of all payments made on a monthly basis, give or take.
- I was notified earlier today that Greentown Joplin is transitioning out of Joplin after four years of assistance and support to our community. I have attached their final report for your review, but please join me in wishing Catherine Hart and her colleagues a heart-felt thank you for their efforts.
- On a similar note, I'm attaching a copy of the letter that Mayor Seibert sent to Staff Sergeant Brendan Brustad, who you will recall ran 161 miles in remembrance of those we lost as a result of May 22, 2011.

In the Pipeline

- Just a reminder that staff and I will be at the Joplin Schools board meeting on Tuesday night to provide information and answer any questions from the board or staff about the project.

Have a great weekend!



GreenTown Joplin Final Report July 2015

INTRODUCTION

The Monarch Cement Company (Humboldt, Kansas) supported GreenTown's work in Greensburg, Kansas post-tornado. After the Joplin tornado in May of 2011 they invested in our work to an even greater degree, enabling us to target our efforts here with a full-time presence. (Monarch CEO Walter Wulf lived in Joplin for years and local company Joplin Concrete is part of the Monarch family of companies.) In addition to offering resources to the local community, GreenTown Joplin (GTJ) and our local volunteers have also been able to aid other communities throughout the country who have been impacted by natural disasters.

Greensburg GreenTown staff Daniel Wallach and Catherine Hart first met with Joplin representatives (from the City and from the Chamber of Commerce) when they participated in a FEMA-sponsored recovery event in Kansas 5 weeks after the Joplin tornado. We gave them a tour of GreenTown's Green Visitors Center and then reached out to them upon their return home to ascertain if it would be a good match for us to start working in their community. Given the green light, we set up our first fact-gathering visit to Joplin in August of 2011. In September we convened two public meetings where we invited local leadership and citizens to help steer us in a direction that was relevant to Joplin's recovery. Representatives from the City, State government, area colleges, the business community, church congregations, and local folks dedicated to Joplin's sustainable recovery helped us chart our course. We successfully recruited local businessman Andrew Whitehead to head up the GreenTown Joplin committee as its chair (having met him when he toured the Green Visitors Center in Greensburg) and we had our first official GreenTown Joplin chapter meeting in December of 2011; we met monthly for over 3 years.

Greensburg GreenTown co-founder Catherine Hart was so taken by the kindness of Joplin's residents and the welcoming feeling that she relocated from Kansas to Joplin in March of 2012. Although we had worked with many other communities over the years since the 2007 Greensburg tornado, this was the first time we launched a full-time chapter - and we were able to do so because of the Monarch investment.

ACTIVITIES and ACCOMPLISHMENTS

A large part of our role in recovering communities is offering friendship as people recover from disaster and start making decisions about their future. In addition to sharing knowledge and resources related to rebuilding their lives, we do a lot of listening. GreenTown Joplin has served as a

clearinghouse for information and resources related to sustainable recovery, post-disaster. Toward this end we've offered hundreds of one-on-one meetings and phone consultations, and replied to dozens of emails.

EVENTS

Shoal Creek Water Festival at the Audubon Center for 3 years, with an estimated attendance of between 1,500-2,000 people each summer.

Educational booth at 2nd tornado anniversary event in Cunningham Park hosted by the City of Joplin, attended by an estimated 2,000 people. The theme was *Resilience, Resolution, and Realization*.

Chamber of Commerce Business Expo 2012

Homebuilders Association of Southwest Missouri Expo 2012-2014

Think Harder: Concrete Ideas for a Stronger Joplin event at Audubon Center
<http://www.monarchcement.com/Assets/PDFs/February%202013%20Pride.pdf> (see page 5 for photos)

Third Thursdays - monthly street fair in downtown Joplin, where we regularly staffed an informational booth

Developed the *Introduction to Sustainable Building Workshop* - for professional builders, March 2012

Designed a Rebuilding Workshop for residents, featuring speakers from Greensburg and from the local area, held at the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce, 2012

Planned and staffed 2 national educational events in collaboration with St. Louis University - Sustainable Disaster Recovery Conference, 2012 & 2013 Each of these folks from the area lent a hand and made presentations: Hugh and Ramona Shields, Frank Schaffer, Rebecca Williams, Genevieve Williams, Traci Sooter, George Van Hoesen, Will Perkins, Ric Mayer, and Andrew Whitehead. Former Assistant City Planner for the City of Joplin, Jonathan Raiche, gave a keynote address at the 2012 session. http://www.slu.edu/1114-15-sustainability_disaster_conf

PRESENTATIONS

Building a Sustainable Future, Sustainable Energy Conference at Missouri State University, Springfield, 2012 Catherine Hart & Andrew Whitehead

Missouri Department of Natural Resources & City of Joplin, Green Infrastructure Seminar, April 2012 (2 presentations by GTJ, including Willy Crane speaking on "Sustainable Building Supporting Thriving Communities")

Missouri Chamber of Commerce Environmental Conference, Osage Beach, MO, 2013

Arkansas Recycling Coalition annual conference 2013, Eureka Springs, AR (co-representing the City of Joplin with Mary Anne Phillips)

<http://www.greentownjoplin.org/articles/2013/10/7/presentations-at-the-arkansas-recycling-coalition-conference.html>

Crowder College Building Department staff, Neosho, MO

Presentations to student groups at Crowder College (Neosho, MO) and Missouri Southern State University (Joplin)

Presentation to Joplin City Council about GreenTown's work 2013

Portland Cement Association conference, Chicago, August 2014

Communicating Climate Change Summit, Baltimore, MD, 2012

<http://climateinterpreter.org/features/recap-communicating-climate-change-summit-2012>

EDUCATIONAL ARTICLES

GreenTown Joplin website (launched January 2012) has offered 70 new articles and a calendar of community events related to sustainability. We continue to offer an abundance of free resources for green building and sustainability on the website. www.greentownjoplin.org.

GTJ staff and volunteers wrote a monthly column for the *Joplin Regional Business Journal* (October 2013 through September 2014) on topics of interest to the area business community. We covered such areas as energy efficiency, recycling, and green building. This function has been taken over by the Young Professionals Network (YPN), a project of the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce.

OUTREACH TO OTHER COMMUNITIES

Outreach to Moore OK post-tornado in 2013. GTJ's general manager helped local leadership design an all-day educational event for residents. Four of us from Joplin (Andrew Whitehead, Willy Crane, Frank Schaffer, & Catherine Hart) participated in their Rebuild Expo, where we staffed an information table and made three presentations. <https://www.facebook.com/cityofmoore/posts/667024929993370> Plus, we connected a traumatized local woman with a "buddy" in Joplin - a woman who had successfully navigated her way through the recovery and rebuilding process.

Outreach to other communities in recovery from natural disasters, including the flooding in Colorado and tornadoes in Illinois & Indiana.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Semester-long consultation to Drury University School of Architecture (Springfield, MO) related to the design of the Monarch Eco-Home <http://www.greentownjoplin.org/articles/2013/5/8/drury-students-wow-the-crowd-with-their-design.html>

***More on the Monarch Eco-Home below, in the next section.

Played an active role in Joplin's curbside recycling referendum of 2014, working under the leadership of the Young Professionals Network.

Advised various local businesses, builders, and homeowners on green building strategies. (We will continue to do so on a voluntary basis.)

Cultivated a good working relationship with the City of Joplin. We have advised on staff on green building, electric vehicle charging stations, and other areas related to sustainability.

Participated in the Joplin Area Food Action Network, an ad hoc group committed to ensuring that local people have easy access to healthy foods.

*****MONARCH ECO-HOME**

We were very excited about the Eco-Home project from the outset. Once the Drury University designed was completed. Staff and volunteers promoted it heavily, both in the media and among local leaders. While we were able to recruit collaboration and products from a number of area resources (including Joplin Concrete, TF Forming Systems, the City of Joplin, local green builders, the Missouri Department of Conservation, Wildcat Glades Audubon Center, a local church, and many more), we kept hitting rough spots as we followed several strong leads for a building site and co-builders. None of those panned out, so we tried a different strategy.

In discussions with City of Joplin staff it seemed very feasible that the Eco-Home could be part of the Green Neighborhood project that would have been funded from federal monies granted to the city after the tornado. GTJ's vision for a sustainably-built neighborhood populated by several resilient, affordable, energy efficient homes anchored by the Eco-Home, was part of the package of proposed projects that had steadily been moving through the City Council approval process the past year. However, at a meeting in June 2015 the City **presented a rank ordering** of all of the proposed projects and, because of budget limitations, had to cut off the list at the top 12. The Green Neighborhood came in at #14.

TOURS OF JOPLIN'S SUSTAINABLY-BUILT PROJECTS

GTJ's staff and volunteers have conducted tours of the community for interested parties, including student groups, volunteers in town to help with the recovery, and folks eager to see firsthand how Joplin's recovery is going.

We arranged for private tours of Joplin Fire Station 2, Joplin High School and Franklin Technology Center, Soaring Heights Elementary and East Middle School campus, MARET Center (Missouri Alternative and Renewable Energy Technology Center – Neosho), several sustainable homes in the area (thanks to the Shields, Schaffer, Lewis families), and Advanced Orthotics and Prosthetics (Frank and Valarie Ikerd).

COMMUNITY BUILDING

Brought together organizations and individuals who have since gone on to create partnerships, most notably Drury University and Crowder College, who are collaborating in the national 2015 Solar Decathlon competition. We have also offered fundraising assistance to this project.

http://www.solardecathlon.gov/team_crowder_drury.html

Have established deep relationships with local people, and continue to offer a listening ear to people sharing their tornado experiences. We have connected people in recovering communities via a "buddy system".

Established a GreenTown Joplin *Volunteer of the Year* recognition and acknowledged three community folks who have gone the extra mile to raise the profile of sustainability in Joplin: Willy Crane (2012), Jeff Slama (2013), and Christina Williams (2014).

MEDIA COVERAGE

We have cultivated very nice working relationships with area media outlets, including the aforementioned *Joplin Area Business Journal*, plus the *Joplin Globe*, local TV and radio stations (including an appearance on the *Living Well* show on KSN-TV), and *Show Me the Ozarks* magazine. Here is a sampling of interviews:

<http://www.greentownjoplin.org/articles/category/media-coverage>

We gave a lot of publicity to the Convoy of Hope ICF homes (emphasizing their resilience and energy efficiency), both in the media and during presentations.

STUDENT GROUPS

Provided internships and supervision to several college students:
Missouri Southern State University - Environmental Health Department
St. Louis University – Center for Sustainability Masters Degree Program

Gave an interview to students at McAuley High School for their project about sustainability.

Coordinated volunteer efforts of George Washington University students (Washington, DC) who came to Joplin to work on their spring break - 2013 and 2014

<http://www.greentownjoplin.org/articles/2013/3/18/thanks-gwu.html>

IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY - IN SUMMARY

While we did not meet with success in getting the Monarch Eco-Home built, we feel that the community of Joplin (and beyond) has been very positively impacted by our presence. GTJ's work has spawned several ongoing partnerships and otherwise brought together people who might not otherwise have been aware of each other's presence and like-mindedness.

We have educated many thousands of people about all aspects of sustainability, with an emphasis on resilient, energy-efficient building; water conservation; the "3 Rs" (reduce, re-use, recycle); and much more.

We have directly assisted families and businesses who rebuilt after the tornado and are now ensconced in safe, energy efficient structures - and who are sharing their positive experiences not only with friends and neighbors, but also with the media and at GTJ-sponsored events.

We've worked alongside emerging and future leaders of the community (and the nation), including the Young Professionals Network, area colleges, FEMA interns, student volunteers, and national sustainability conference participants. GTJ's chair, Andrew Whitehead, is a young man whose high profile in Joplin's sustainable recovery has been a great example of how leadership can surface post-disaster. Andrew has spoken at several events, including the national Sustainable Disaster Recovery Conference in St. Louis and the Sustainability Conference at Missouri State University, and he participated in "Greening the Heartland" in Indianapolis, a meeting sponsored by the United States Green Building Conference.

It has been a joy and a privilege to serve the community. There is something truly special about Joplin and the folks who call it home.

Catherine Hart, Co-Founder, Greensburg GreenTown, and General Manager, GreenTown Joplin
Daniel Wallach, Co-Founder and Executive Director, Greensburg GreenTown
Andrew Whitehead, Chair, GreenTown Joplin
July 24, 2015



Office of the Mayor
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July 22, 2015

S.Sgt. Brendan Brustad
United States Air Force
1208 Gott Drive
Whiteman Air Force Base, MO 65305

Dear Staff Sergeant Brustad,

Thank you for the beautiful plaque and one of the most heartfelt deeds anyone has done to show their support of Joplin.

Upon reading your letter, I felt great admiration towards you for your strength, endurance and commitment in completing your goal. Running 161 miles in just six days truly takes a discipline that not many people have. You have set the bar quite high for anyone who would try to follow such a feat.

I was so impressed with your endeavor that the plaque was displayed and your letter was read at the Joplin City Council meeting on June 15, 2015, for Council Members, City Staff and the general public could learn of your accomplishment.

I speak for the Council when I say we were all so touched by your actions that we would like to present you with a gift from the City of Joplin. Enclosed is the City flag that flew over Joplin City Hall during the days of your run. Please have this memento as a reminder of our community and the citizens who live here, and those who have gone before us, including the 161 community members who died due to the May 22, 2011 tornado.

Thank you again. If you are ever in Joplin, Mo., we'd be honored for you to stop by City Hall so we could personally meet the man who went to great lengths to show his love for our city and continues to exhibit his love for his country through his service. May God bless you with a safe and happy life.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael L. Seibert". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Michael L. Seibert, Mayor