

**Environmental Management Commission  
Draft Meeting Minutes – February 14, 2007**

Meeting Location: City Hall, Council Dining Room, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor

Attendance

Commissioners Present: Carol Adams, Bob Berkebile, Faith Brennan, Stephen Hopkins, Marty Kraft, Jim Scott, Rachel Treanor, Jim Van Eman, John Ware

Commissioners Absent: J.C. Alonzo, Shawna Bligh, Jenny Erdman, Sherry Jackson, Thomas Kimes, Jim Sheppard

Others present: Dennis Murphey, Jerry Shechter, Sherri Lewis, Katie Grotegut – Office of Environmental Quality (OEQ); Scott Cahail – Water Services Department; Bruce Wiggins – City Planning & Development; Claus Wawrzinek & Ron McLinden – Sierra Club; Richard Rocha – Bayer Crop Sciences

Meeting convened at 4:05 pm by EMC Vice Chair John Ware and introductions were made. Minutes of the last meeting were accepted with minor changes.

**Committee Reports**

Climate Protection – John Ware reported that the Energy Work Group meeting on February 6 included a good discussion as they move forward to Phase 1 GHG reduction recommendations.

Jim Scott expressed a desire for the EMC to send a letter of support for the Climate Protection Progress Report and Phase 1 GHG reduction recommendations, when they are finalized. Jim Van Eman stated that he doesn't feel confident enough in the climate protection planning process to currently support the Progress Report and/or the Phase 1 GHG reduction recommendations – he doesn't like not having a Climate Protection Plan ready for City Council by April and only submitting a Progress Report. Bob Berkebile (as a member of the Steering Committee) expressed a more optimistic perspective about the planning process to date.

Carol Adams reported that at the Policy & Outreach Work Group meeting, Donovan Mouton suggested a climate protection commission/citizens advisory committee to institutionalize oversight of implementation of the climate protection plan, working with City Council Committees. Scott Cahail noted that Donovan suggested that the EMC should review any ordinance re creation of a climate protection oversight commission. Jim Scott mentioned that the EMC has obligations under a consent decree re budget reviews and other issues – he indicated that perhaps it was an appropriate time for the EMC to consider its future role and functions and he would like this to be a topic of discussion at a future EMC meeting. Bob Berkebile indicated that he thinks the EMC should provide its thoughts and recommendations to the Steering Committee re a new climate protection oversight commission. Jim Scott asked to be involved in any discussions with the EMC re a new commission.

A future action item will be to decide whether to support (by sending a letter to the Steering Committee, with a copy to Mayor Barnes) the approach advocated by Bob Berkebile and Dennis Murphey to work through the Steering Committee for Phase 1 GHG reduction actions and a continuation of the planning process to be endorsed in April by the City Council.

Energy – Jim Scott no committee report

Social Justice – Jim Sheppard no committee report

Water Committee – (no lead)

Carol Adams reported that yesterday's Wet Weather Panel meeting had been postponed. Scott Cahail reported that a Green Solutions Sub-Committee has been created to look at how to incorporate "green solutions" into the Long Term Control Plan for combined sewer overflows that is being prepared by the Water Services Department for submittal to MDNR and EPA.

Landscapes – Marty Kraft

Faith reported that thousands of tulips have been planted and plans are underway for an April festival to celebrate Tulips on Troost.

LEED Committee – John Ware no committee report

John noted that the technical assistance project with BNIM is now underway and the kick-off meeting with the BNIM team and the City's LEED Standards Committee provided a strong start. John reviewed the scope of work for the project, including a review of two recent City construction projects, development of tools (draft proposal/contract text, policy recommendations), and staff training.

Communications – Sherry Jackson no committee report

Compliance – (no lead) no committee report

Office of Environmental Quality Report

- Jerry Shechter gave an update on progress in developing a climate protection web page on the City's website and shared a copy of draft page that has been sent to City Communications for final review and posting. Jerry is also working in concert with Faith Brennan on an update of the EMC's webpage. The OEQ webpage will also be updated.
- Jerry Shechter also gave a brief update on distribution of compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) donated to the City as a part of the Million Lights campaign. In January the City received 21,000 CFLs from Wal-Mart. The City has distributed 2,070 CFLs to neighborhood residents, with a target audience of low-income and senior citizen households.
- The call for nominations for the 2007 Environmental Achievement Awards has been issued and Dennis Murphey requested three EMC members to serve as judges of the nominations received by March 9. Rachel Treanor, Jim Scott, and Jim Van Eman volunteered to evaluate the nominations.

Old Business

None

Other Business

Carol Adams noted that a revision of the City's building code will begin in the next 2 – 3 months.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm. Next meeting is March 14, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. (meeting location to be determined).