

Environmental Management Commission

Draft Meeting Minutes – July 11, 2007

Meeting Location: 13th Floor Board Room, City Hall

Attendance

Commissioners present: Carol Adams, J.C. Alonzo, Faith Brennan, Marty Kraft, Jim Scott, Rachel Treanor, Jim van Eman

Others present: Richard Rocha – Visitor; Sherri Lynn Lewis & Dennis Murphey – Office of Environmental Quality (OEQ); Bruce Wiggins – City Planning & Development; Scott Cahail – Water Services; Matt Gigliotti – Law Department; Ron McLinden & Claus Wawrzinek – Sierra Club; and Dustin Jensen – Metropolitan Energy Center

Meeting was convened at 4:10 pm by EMC Co-Chair JC Alonzo and introductions were made. A quorum was present.

Minutes of the last meeting were adopted as written.

Membership Issues – JC informed everyone that he is moving to Lenexa next week. Since his office is in his home, he will not meet the requirements of the EMC ordinance specifying that EMC members must either reside in KCMO or (for up to 5 members) they must pay City earnings tax. JC will offer to stay on as Co-Chair until a replacement Co-Chair is appointed by Mayor Funkhouser.

EMC Strategic Planning Retreat

Rachel updated everyone re logistics and planning items for the upcoming reception & retreat:

- Announcements have been issued via email for the Friday night (July 20) reception at HOK's Sports Venue Office near the City Market.
- Food & venue issues have been coordinated with Jerry Shechter.
- Rachel will check with Jerry on Monday, July 16, re RSVPs for the reception.
- No alcohol can be purchased with City funds (which are covering the costs of food and drinks for the reception).
- The Saturday, July 21, strategic planning retreat will be at the Discovery Center, 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

John Ware is preparing a PowerPoint presentation for the reception re the history of the EMC. Following the presentation, the floor will be opened for any comments by the Mayor, City Councilmembers, and City Manager (for any of them in attendance). Marty suggested asking the elected officials to tell EMC what they would want from the Commission. JC said he would make additional phone calls to the Mayor, City Councilmembers, and the City Manager to encourage their attendance at the reception. Scott Cahail will ask Sheila Shockey to forward the invitation for the reception to all Wet Weather Panel members. Carol requested that OEQ staff send invitations to the Park Board members and the Planning Commission members.

JC noted that previous retreats have included discussions of the EMC committees and priorities for the next year or so. JC asked for preferences re a set agenda for the retreat

vs. a more spontaneous meeting. Marty favored spontaneity rather than a set agenda. Jim Scott noted that, regardless of whether there was a set agenda, he wanted to ensure there was discussion re the advocacy and policy roles of the EMC. Carol said she wanted to discuss the issue of the EMC or a new entity to provide oversight of climate protection plan implementation after the plan is adopted by the City Council (and she would discuss this with Donovan Mouton to get his thoughts). Jim van Eman suggested review of the EMC charter for possible changes – he indicated that the relationship between the EMC and City staff has changed (perhaps diminished in some ways) over the past year and a half – he also raised the issue of the relationship between the EMC and the Mayor & his staff – he also posed the question of “what does it mean to be a commissioner” and has it changed in the last few years?

Re City staff participation, Andy Savastino will be asked to speak briefly re the departmental Environmental Coordinating Managers at the reception. For the Saturday retreat, Scott Cahail, Bruce Wiggins, Sherri Lewis, Jerry Shechter, and Dennis Murphey will be invited to participate. OEQ was asked to provide flip charts, markers, pens, and notepads for the retreat.

After some discussion, it was decided that there would be no invited guests at the retreat and JC noted a few items to be a part of the agenda:

- policy and advocacy role of the EMC
- structure of the EMC
- EMC charter
- relationship of the EMC to City staff, the Mayor, and the City Council
- commission representatives to external committees, task forces, etc.

Carol will bring materials re the Development Code revision to the retreat. JC requested that Dennis compile a list of external committees for assignment of EMC representatives.

Miscellaneous Updates:

- Scott Cahail – Last night, the Wet Weather Community Advisory Panel approved the Green Solutions Position Paper and endorsed the City’s adoption of the Stream Setback Buffer provision & the proposed Development Code. Jim Scott suggested a letter of support for the Wet Weather Panel Green Solutions Position Paper and the motion was adopted.
- Carol told the EMC that the deadline for submittal of the City’s Conceptual Long Term Control Plan for Combined Sewer Overflows is coming up soon. Water Services is working on a draft for consideration by the Wet Weather Panel and the City Council.
- Carol noted that in June the metro area violated the ground-level ozone standard and the contingency measures in the KC Metro Area Ozone Maintenance Plan will be implemented over the next several months. Also, EPA has proposed changes to the national ozone standard, lowering the 8-hr standard from 0.08 ppm to somewhere in the range of 0.070 – 0.075 ppm.

OEQ Report

- The City's Economic Development & Incentive Policy Task Force is meeting weekly on Wednesdays and a copy of the meeting schedule & locations will be sent to the EMC members.
- James Joerke (MARC's Air Quality Manager) and Dennis Murphey will be giving a brief presentation at tomorrow's Business Session of City Council re the consequences of the June 15 violation of the ozone standard.
- The Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce Leadership Exchange trip is to Seattle, September 16 – 18. One of the areas of focus will be how the business community and the City are working together on climate protection activities, including the Seattle Climate Partnership Program. Approximately 100 community leaders from business, government, and civic organizations will be attending, including Mayor Funkhouser, Bob Berkebile, Bill Downey, David Warm (Executive Director of MARC), Mark Huffer (General Mgr. of KCATA), and Dennis Murphey.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:00pm. Next meeting is August 8th at 4:00 pm. at the West View Room at MARC (2nd Floor).