

**Environmental Management Commission  
Meeting Minutes – June 11, 2008**

Meeting Location: Mid-America Regional Council, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Westview Room

Attendance

Commissioners present: Carol Adams, Bob Berkebile, Amy Bhesania, Faith Brennan, Linda Clark, Dustin Jensen, Marty Kraft, Richard Rocha, Jack Schrimsher, Jim Scott, John Ware

Staff: Dennis Murphey & Jerry Shechter – Office of Environmental Quality (OEQ); Matt Gigliotti – Law Department; Scott Cahail – Water Services Department; John Franklin – Assistant City Manager

Guests: Taylor Haynes, GKC Chamber of Commerce – Pending Appointment as Commissioner  
Carol Block - Citizen

Carol Adams, Co-Chair, opened the meeting at 4:05 pm; A quorum was present

- A. Carol Adams welcomed all Commissioners, staff and guests and asked everyone to introduce themselves
- B. Approval of the minutes – Dustin Jensen made a motion, seconded by Richard Rocha, to approve the minutes of the meeting of May 14, 2008. The motion passed.
- C. Stream Setback Ordinance – Carol Adams  
EMC sent a letter to the Mayor and City Council urging adoption of the Stream Setback Ordinance in October, 2007. The Chair presented a proposed new letter to be sent to the Mayor and City Council urging adoption of the City Plan Commission compromise language for the Stream Setback Ordinance and for the Development Code without further delay. Dustin Jensen suggested a language change to strengthen the letter. Marty Kraft made a motion, seconded by Linda Clark, authorizing the Chair to revise and forward the letter with the letter of October, 2007 attached. The motion passed.
- D. EMC 2008 Retreat Follow up
  1. Rules of Procedure – The Rules of Procedure have been reviewed by the Law Department specifically focused on (1) cleaning up language in the entire document, and (2) focusing on the quorum requirement. Matt Gigliotti, Law Department, suggested several language changes throughout the document. With regard to the quorum requirement, he suggested that to change and reduce the established requirement of a simple majority, a change in the enabling ordinance would first be required. Those present agreed that they did not want to request a change in the enabling ordinance.

Matt then reviewed the suggested changes by Article, as follows.

Article I – Mission and Purpose - Clean up language was suggested

Article II – Membership - The document was last amended in 2002 to require Commissioners contribute to the City Earnings Tax. Clean up language

Article III – Meetings – The suggestion was made to change the regular meeting place to be identified as MARC.

Article IV – Quorum and Voting – As noted above, the issue is with the enabling ordinance passed by City Council. To reduce the number of Commissioners required for a quorum will require a change in that ordinance. There was also discussion focused on requirements for voting that addressed proxy voting, electronic attendance and voting and absentee voting. There was agreement that electronic attendance should continue to be allowed and would contribute to the quorum count, but some controversy regarding

absentee voting. Matt will propose alternatives for consideration in July. It was noted that, in the absence of a quorum, the other issues are moot.

Article V – Officers – The document addresses a Chair, a Vice Chair and a Secretary (Corresponding not Recording). The EMC has not recently appointed a Secretary.

Article VI – Duties of Officers - Clean up language suggested

Article VII – Committees – The issue was focused on identification of the Department of Environmental Management (DEM), which no longer exists, and assignment of City staff to assist committees. Although the current language is somewhat awkward, it is consistent with the enabling ordinance and City Codes, Section 2671, which replaces references to DEM with OEQ.

Article VIII – Rules of Order – No changes suggested

Article IX – Special Awards – No changes suggested

Article X – Miscellaneous Procedures and Policies – Clean up language

Matt was asked to provide a modified version of the document and to present it to the Commissioners for action at the next meeting.

2. Retreat – Synthesis and Recommendations – Dustin Jensen, John Ware, Jimmy Adegoke and Carol Adams

Jensen and Ware presented a synthesis of the recommendations from the Retreat including a suggested set of outcomes based projects in lieu of committees. This would not eliminate the function of liaisons to various other committees and activities but add a dynamic set of activities in which Commissioners could choose to be involved. Each of the suggested initial 10 project choices was reviewed. Projects could be dropped or added over time.

Jim Scott commented that the 2008 mission statement on the Retreat Synthesis warranted more discussion. John Ware explained that the statement was not intended to replace the existing EMC Mission Statement. Marty Kraft would like the EMC to consider and to address the name of this commission. Discussion of these issues was deferred to a future meeting.

Jim Scott made a motion, seconded by Bob Berkebile, to suspend the current committees and to accept the proposed list of 10 projects. The motion passed. Rather than setting priorities among the projects, Commissioners were invited to volunteer to work on the project or projects of their choice. Initial assignments were made, subject to later addition or revision. Commissioners not able to attend this meeting will be asked to consider how they would like to participate. It was suggested that Commissioners could work with other Commissioners and/or persons from the public who are interested.

Project 1 - FY'08 City Budget: Environmental Protection Analysis – Faith Brennan (and possibly Donovan Mouton?)

Project 2 – Implementation of Sustainable KC Resolution 080246 - Bob Berkebile and Dustin Jensen

Project 3 – Links with other Groups to foster Sustainability– (Taylor Haynes?)

Project 4 – Scenario Planning for KC in a Carbon Constrained World

(a) impacts of climate change on the KC region – (Jimmy Adegoke?) and John Ware,

(b) economic impacts of higher energy costs – Linda Clark and John Ware

Project 5 – Economic Development of Green Jobs – Carol Adams and John Ware

Project 6 – Resource Effectiveness – (Jim van Eman?)

Project 7 – Environmental Hazard Protection – Dustin Jensen

Project 8 – Links with other Environmental Management Commissions – Taylor Haynes (and Jim Scott?)

Project 9 – Review City policies, codes and regulations – Faith Brennan

Project 10 – Urban Agriculture – Amy Bhesania and Marty Kraft

Bob Berkebile noted that City actions may help link projects 1, 4, 9, and 10.

E. Carol Block expressed her concerns about the changes in the City's Bulky Item Pick-up Program. She is concerned that the changes made by the City would not address environmental concerns or citizen's concerns. The change returns us to the way bulky item pick-up was done 10 years ago. It was suggested that Michael Shaw, Solid Waste Management Division, be asked to address the EMC.

F. Liaison Reports

1. Air Quality – Carol Adams - No Report
2. Climate Protection Planning – Bob Berkebile and Dennis Murphey
3. Green Solutions Administrative Regulation – Dennis Murphey

#2 and #3 – Bob Berkebile, John Franklin and Dennis Murphey

The CPP Steering Committee met May 28, 2008 and adopted a community-wide greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction goal of 30% below 2000 levels by 2020 plus the 23 recommendations of the two Work Groups. The Steering Committee also set an aspirational goal of 80% below 2000 levels by 2050 and to focus on a carbon-neutral Kansas City.

Staff is currently writing the CP Plan which is to be presented to the Steering Committee at its next meeting on Monday, June 30, 2008. The meeting will be on the 10<sup>th</sup> Floor of City Hall from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm. If the Steering Committee approves and adopts the report, it will be presented to the Mayor and City Council early in July. It is expected the Plan will be sent to committee for discussion – which was not done with the adoption of the Progress Report in April, 2007. Staff is hoping for approval by the Mayor and City Council in July partly in preparation for the Steering Committee, staff, Work Group Chairs and others to meet at Shadowcliff August 13-17, 2008.

The focus of the meeting at Shadowcliff will be:

1. Implementation strategies
2. Partnerships needed to effect implementation
3. Set the stage to integrate the KC Plan into a broader regional approach to support the efforts of the other cities and counties in the region involved in CP planning.

Bob Berkebile hailed the diverse community-wide approach of the Work Groups and stated the goals established will not be easily achieved but are a tribute to the view to the future. He then spoke about the City's internal Sustainability Workshop held 6/2-6/3. There were presentations and break-out work groups to address issues and to define directions in 6 focus areas. Presentations were made by City staff, a representative from Portland, OR, BNIM, and Mike Scanlon, the City Administrator of Mission, Ks.

Mr. Scanlon is on the ICMA's Sustainability Committee and challenged KC,MO to step out and be the area leader on addressing climate needs.

John Franklin expressed his gratitude to BNIM for their immeasurable help in planning and implementing the workshop – at no cost to the City. The focus of the workshop is transformation of City operations. The next step is to get the Mayor, City Council and City staff on the same page.

Bob Berkebile noted that John Franklin, Dennis Murphey and Scott Cahail were instrumental in defining issues pertinent to the City. It was important that City staff got to know each other. The open question is the level of support from City Council when

steps are taken to move the City in the direction of sustainability. The rough draft of results of the Sustainability Workshop will be sent to the EMC.

Dustin Jensen asked about EMC relationships with other boards and commissions and how our focus is to be communicated. Bob Berkebile said there would possibly be a training for all the boards and commissions.

4. LEED – John Ware – No Report
5. Solid Waste Management – No Report
6. Wet Weather Panel – Carol Adams – The EMC letter of support for submission of the plan to EPA has been delivered to the Mayor and City Council. Council has asked, through correspondence signed by John Franklin, for a 6 month extension to better address green solutions. An RFQ has been developed, which is to be submitted to City Council, for a third party consultant to provide advice and direction on how best to implement green solutions. Staff will be meeting with EPA on June 16, 2008 to address policy and legal issues.

There is no mandate for a storm water plan as there is for an overflow plan. The City has to determine how much money can reasonably be raised and spent on each set of issues and how to define the real benefits to area residents and businesses.

#### G. New Business – None

#### H. Calendar of Upcoming Events

1. Thursday, June 12, 2008 – the next Conversations on the Environment – BNIM will present Greensburg, Kansas – the process and choices leading up to their decision to be the first city/town in the USA to target LEED Platinum as their standard.
2. The US House of Representatives Appropriations Committee will next week discuss the appropriations to implement the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG). The program was authorized at \$2 Billion and needs appropriations.
3. Discovery Channel will begin to air its new TV program – Green Planet. The series begins with Greensburg, Ks.
4. There will be a celebration for those who participated in the Climate Protection Plan process on July 29, 2008 from 5 pm to 7 pm at Boulevard Brewery.

The next monthly meeting is scheduled for

Date: Wednesday, July 9, 2008

Time: 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Place: MARC – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Westview Room

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 pm.