



**Environmental Management Commission
Meeting Minutes – February 22, 2017**

Meeting Location: MARC, Westview Room, 2nd Floor, 600 Broadway, KCMO

Commissioners present: Carol Adams, Bob Berkebile, Caroline (Molly) Davies, Jim Hansen, Marty Kraft, DJ Pierre, Ben Proffer,

Commissioners Absent: Jensen Adams, Gloria Ortiz Fisher, Rachel Guthrie, Kimberly Hill, Seft Hunter, Julie Koppen, Robin Martinez, Jack Schrimsher, Nacente Seabury, Emily Truebner

Staff: Dennis Murphey, Jerry Shechter – OEQ; Matt Gigliotti – Law

Guests: John Fish Kurmann – 350KC, Lina Khalaf

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 pm; A quorum was not present

Co-chairs Carol Adams and Bob Berkebile welcomed commissioners, staff, and guests who introduced themselves. The co-chairs began the discussion by noting the purpose of the meeting is to continue discussion about understanding and acting on climate issues as an emergency.

Potential impacts will include changes in temperature, loss of polar and other ice, such as glaciers; loss of potable water resources

Potential implications – military (international security), political, economic and social dislocation and hardship

Questions –

How do we better celebrate what we have already done and are doing?

How can we/should we better communicate with people?

Who is the audience, what is the appropriate message and who is the messenger? What is the best medium to convey the message? Who are the partners and what partnerships are best?

Issue: Potential problems re food in the Midwest ... How is the case to be made for the food/climate nexus?

NOVA video – “Earth from Space”

How do we determine and emphasize where is the best place to use carbon?

What can the EMC do to convince others (eg, City of KCMO) to then influence others (eg, KCP&L, Spire) to do more? Lift up Kansas City as a place that is doing better (refer to STAR Community Index, etc) – celebrating, marketing, etc; It was suggested EMC talk with KC Area Development Council (KC-ADC) about how to send a message of KC to others.

Would the Mayor support a metrowide compact to curb sprawl, address transportation, etc?

Need to show the links – such as the grid, transportation and sprawl

Need to celebrate KCP&L efforts and programs and support them

Support distributed generation to protect against power shortages

Transportation issues – on-demand (Uber) to help reduce need for more vehicles and to reduce trips related to vehicles; There is no reason for the City to incentivize sprawl – Should there be a general policy? Powerful interests are vested in existing ways of doing business.

Technology shift underway

With what would the EMC approach the Mayor and Council?

Compounding issue – racism and other prejudice in many forms

Recommendation to the City – first define what to lift up, to celebrate and clearly relate to climate change

Ask friends in other cities what they have done; Maybe create a playbook of case studies

Under what circumstances should the City consider de-annexing land?

Convince the City to declare a climate emergency – do not incentivize sprawl; incentives based on a defined policy;

De-annexing land would send a message and lead by example

Consider asking Advance KC to make a presentation to the EMC

Need to get clear what does the EMC want to say and to whom and, then, to determine how to do it and how to pay for it

How do we develop the appropriate policy?

How do we better engage the public?

EMC has multiple audiences – (1) Mayor and City Council, (2) citizens

Historic Manheim Park is better prepared for climate change than it was 4-5 years ago. How do we let people know this and how do we help them draw appropriate conclusions?

We, collectively, need to sell the big things we do that improve quality of life and address climate change

Can the concept of climate emergency be the driver of choice or is it other things that ultimately impact the climate emergency?

EMC should develop a list of recommendations and policy proposals

How do we begin to achieve social cohesion such that people, once again, look to each other for support?

Ask Commissioners to think about the best way to tell the story;

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm

The next EMC meeting is:

March 8, 2017

4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

MARC - 600 Broadway, 2nd Floor - Westview Meeting Room