

Environmental Management Commission Meeting Minutes June 14, 2017

Meeting Location: Health Department, 2400 Troost Ave, KCMO

Commissioners present: Carol Adams, Jensen Adams, Marty Kraft, DJ Pierre, Ben Proffer, Nacente Seabury, Emily Truebner

Commissioners Absent: Bob Berkebile, Gloria Ortiz Fisher, Caroline (Molly) Davies, Rachel Guthrie, Jim Hansen, Kimberly Hill, Seft Hunter, Julie Koppen, Robin Martinez, Jack Schrimsher

Staff: Dennis Murphey and Jerry Shechter – OEQ; Matt Gigliotti and Katie Chandler – Law, Mike Mallon, City Planning & Development, David Mitchell – Sierra Club, Madeline Weissend, Joy Heaviland, Jacquie Whalen,

Guests: Mark Walter (US Sun Solar), Warren Adams-Leavitt (Metropolitan Energy Center), Jim Glover,

- A. The meeting was called to order at 4:10 pm; there was no quorum. Co-chair Carol Adams welcomed commissioners, staff, and quests who introduced themselves..
- B. No action was taken on the April or May EMC draft meeting minutes. Action was deferred to the July meeting.
- C. KCMO Solar Permitting Process No action was taken; Discussion was deferred to the July meeting
- D. Climate Emergency There was a brief discussion about the national movement "Ready for 100%" (regarding renewables) and Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance. EMC needs more information about each one to take any action. Ben Proffer volunteered to research different programs and make some recommendations.
- E. Retreat Priorities Jensen Adams
- F. Liaison Updates
 - 1. Air Quality Forum (AQF) Carol Adams The area experienced two ozone excedences; EPA is delaying implementation of the new ozone standard with the results that the summer of 2017 will be included in the analysis of the area. The AQF members voted to recommend approval of the Regional Resilience Strategy.
 - 2. The documents for bidding responses for KCI redevelopment specify LEED-Gold
 - 3. No Report
 - 4. The Climate Protection Steering Committee is scheduled to meet 6.16.17 at 3:00 pm at MARC.
 - 5. No Report
 - 6. No Report
 - 7. Water Cost of Services Carol Adams distributed a copy of the Task Force final recommendations. Recommendations include no proposal for changes in rate structure, advance payments to alleviate bad debt, and other items. Commissioners were asked to review the recommendations and the draft letter from EMC supporting an approach allowing for more green outcomes. Staff was asked to poll the Commissioners for the earliest dates/times available for a conference call meeting to discuss the Task Force recommendations and draft EMC recommendations to the Mayor and Council.

G. OEQ Report - Dennis Murphey

1. Environmental Achievement Awards – Location options include Health Department Multipurpose Room, Health Department Biery Auditorium, MARC Board Room and Lakeside Nature Center. Jerry was asked to secure the space with the preference being MARC. There have only been two nominations received to date with the deadline for receipt having been extended to 6.16.17. Volunteers for the review committee include Ben Proffer, Emily Truebner and potentially Molly Davies and Julie Koppen. It was suggested the committee also look at those that were not chosen last year for any improvements, data, etc.



- Mayor's 2016 Energy Challenge was focused on improvements in ENERGY STAR® score relative to 2014. The awards
 event was held in the Chamber of Commerce Board Room at Union Station and was hosted by the Great Plains
 Chapter of the US Green Building Council. Achievements were recognized by five companies/institutions with a grand
 prize awarded to the KC Public Schools.
- 3. KCP&L has announced it has committed to shutting down six of its oldest coal-fired generators at several different plants by 2019 representing 900 MW of generation. There has been no media pick up of the story.
- 4. Charles Harris, Mike Klendon and Dennis Murphey made a presentation at a BTG workshop about energy efficiency improvements to City facilities.
- 5. The US EPA has removed climate change information from its website but Chicago and other cities have captured and archived the data.
- 6. June 1, 2017 Dennis was in Oakland, CA at a discussion that involved the Kresge Foundation about resilience and obstacles to achieving resilience. Kresge may provide resources to support implementation of strategies.
- 7. June 2, 2017 The Climate Mayors, including Mayor James, published a letter committing to continue the work to achieve Paris Climate Agreement goals and intent. At the time of this meeting, 298 mayors, in 41 states, had signed the letter.. A second letter from counties, universities and businesses was being signed. titled "We Are Still In It". KCMO City Council members have agreed to propose a resolution indicting KC's intent to help fill the void.
- 8. Climate Protection Steering Committee has scheduled a meeting for Friday, June 16th at 3 pm at MARC. There will be discussions about the City's 5-Year Business Plan and a focus on high impact neighborhoods. Joanne Collins spoke at a joint committee meeting of the Transportation & Infrastructure and Finance & Governance Committees regarding use of the proceeds of the GO Bonds for trees and traffic signal synchronization.
- 9. Senate Bill 112, which contained legislation to end the state prohibition of utility rebates for affordable housing developments that were financed I n part using Low Income Housing Tax Credits and/or Historic Preservation Tax Credits, passed both houses and was sent to the Governor for signature. The legislation has not yet been signed.
- 10. Dennis distributed a handout showing the Kansas City has achieved an ACEEE ranking of #19 in the 2017 ACEEE Energy Efficiency Scorecard. KC was noted as one of four most improved cities, having moved up from #27 to #19. The City Energy Project was singled out as a major factor in the improved ranking.
- H. Legal Brief Matt Gigliotti Matt noted he been rotated to a different assignment in the Law Department and is being replaced by Katie Chandler, whom he introduced, as the new counsel.
- I. Old Business -
- J. New Business Action items for upcoming meetings
 - a. See bullet points in Section B of the draft Minutes for May 2017. Commissioners were asked to look at these bullet points for any interest in facilitating discussion or a work group
 - b. Split incentive for energy efficiency capital improvements in affordable multifamily developments. (The split incentive is capital improvements, probably requiring a loan, by the owner while the utility bill payer is the tenant who sees the energy improvements benefits).
 - c. Ancillary items with an impact on advisability of making energy efficiency improvements; Example: a leaky roof and attic insulation.
 - d. A more comprehensive housing program by the City addressing energy efficiency including energy, water, repairs.
 - e. Energy burden impact on K-12 school mobility.
 - What level of interest is there by individual commissioners to take on 1 or more of these, or other, items?
 - How can the EMC and the City speak about these issues in terms of action rather than alarm?
 - There was discussion about development of an approach to developing and working on action items. One suggestion is a series of white papers such as were done by John Ware – Climate Protection Report which led to the Climate Protection Plan, and Robin Martinez – Best + Sustainable Uses of Vacant Properties.
- K. Visitor Remarks Jim Glover General Obligation Bond issues Former Councilman Glover is seeking help from the EMC in recommendations to the City Council about uses of proceeds from the GO Bonds. Specifically, he is interested in trees and traffic signal synchronization. He is concerned that the activities being proposed for use of first year bond money provide nothing for these or other environmental issues. He is suggesting consideration of \$1 million of the first \$42 million (2%+) plus another \$1 million in year 2. With no quorum, no action was taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm

The next EMC meeting is: July 12, 2017 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

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Health Department, Multipurpose Room on the lower level 2400 Troost Ave.