

Environmental Management Commission Meeting Minutes July 14, 2021

Meeting Location: Online via Microsoft Teams

Commissioners present: Carol Adams, Bob Berkebile, Marty Kraft, Duvel (DJ) Pierre, Scott Klamm, D. Jensen Adams, Caroline (Molly) Davies, Nathan Madden, Joseph (Joe) Nickels, Julie Koppen.

Commissioners Absent: Michael Kelley, Ben Proffer, Gloria Ortiz-Fisher, Kimberly Hill.

Staff: Andy Savastino, Lara Isch, Gerald Shechter, Rachel O'Neal, Chris Hays- OEQ; Brian Platt, Melissa Kozakiewicz - City Manager's Office; Dan Williams (Fleet), Yolanda McKinzy - General Services.

Guests: Justice Horn – Brendle Group; Emily Wolfe, Brittanie Giroux, Miriam Bouallegue - MEC; Don Wallace, Billy Davies, Jim Turner – Sierra Club; Robin Ganahl – Mothers Out Front; Sarah Benal – HCA; Patrick Hosty – Dynamhex; Mark Samborski – Antioch Urban Growers; David Mitchell – Citizens Climate Lobby; Julie Dietrich – Evergy; Maggie St. John, Katherine Howard.

- A. The meeting was called to order at 4:04 pm; A quorum was present at that time. Co-chair Carol Adams welcomed commissioners, staff, and guests.
- B. Fleet Electrification Draft AR Brian Platt
 - A draft of the Administrative Regulation (AR) for electrifying the city fleet has been completed and is being circulated for feedback.
 - Brian Platt sees the city fleet as an opportunity to reach the zero-emission goal.
 - Brian's vision is to have a date set where every new vehicle purchased must be Zero Emissions where it is feasible/reasonable (it may not be available for every type of vehicle.)

*Caroline (Molly) Davies made a motion, seconded by Bob Berkebile, to draft a formal letter of support for electrification of the city fleet as opportunities are available. The motion passed.

- C. *Minutes Caroline (Molly) Davies made a motion, seconded by Bob Berkebile, to approve the minutes of the meeting of June 2021. The motion passed.
- D. EMC Annual Report Carol Adams
 - Draft has been prepared
 - Are there any specific points that are missing?
 - Please provide your input and/or specific language to be included in the report to Carol Adams.
 - Julie Koppen created a helpful document about resident engagement for the commission to consider while creating the annual report.
 - Carol feels it is important to add language about the importance of linking the annual report to the Climate Protection & Resilience Plan Update recommendations.
 - Nathan Madden will add information regarding opportunities of building energy efficiency in the built
 environment, wording for this section may be able to "nudge" along the building code update. City
 planning is waiting to see what comes out of the Climate Action Plan before moving forward with
 adopting the new code.
 - Bob Berkebile recommended adding carbon sequestration and reduction as well as soil building as
 one linked strategy.
 - Urgency and equity should be important themes throughout the report.
 - Jensen Adams inquired about regulatory compliance trends that may need to be included in the report.
 Clean water and GHG emissions are topics that are regularly addressed. OEQ is beginning a Land Disturbance/Erosion Control class for city employees.

- E. Climate Protection & Resilience Plan Update Lara Isch
 - Outreach materials are in the final stages of development and the webpage is almost ready to go live on the Bang the Table Website. https://playbook.kcmo.gov/cprp
 - The Climate Justice Workers have been hired and are on board.
 - Interviews are underway for the Intern.

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- The mayor has made appointments for the Climate Protection Steering Committee, notifications are still going out but formal announcements should be coming shortly.
- F. Environmental Achievement Awards Planning Caroline (Molly) Davies
 - 8 applications this year (7 full applications, as one was not filled out)
 - o Water Dept used a drone to help with water research and investigations.
 - o Maintenance Division created a new fuel mix to reduce carbon and improve functionality.
 - Parks Ambassadors Program recruited over 120 volunteers and provided training for projects.
 - Mike Klender and Carl Stepp Lifetime Environmental Stewardship award
 - Honorable Mention Girl Scouts partnered with the city to create a video about solid waste and how to properly recycle.
 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4b2BcQIdN88https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4b2BcQI
 - 2 applications will be recommended to apply next year.

*Bob Berkebile made a motion, seconded by Marty Kraft, to approve the recommendation of the EAA committee. The motion passed.

- Should the ceremony be held in person or virtual this year? OEQ will research available venues and coordinate with Caroline (Molly) Davies.
- All commissioners agreed to move the date of the ceremony to September.
- G. Office of Environmental Quality Report Andy Savastino & Lara Isch
 - The office has been very engaged in the Climate Protection planning process, CDP reporting, LEED for Cities, Energy Cap and Benchmarking compliance.
 - LED Streetlight conversion project original bids were thrown out, so the city is planning a new RFP with financing options included. A pilot program is being planned, which will demonstrate the difference between the 3,000K and 4,000K lighting options.
 - Renewable Direct MO West windfarm went online back in December Evergy reported over \$800,000 in credits from January to June 2021. For the MO Metro territory (Expedition), Evergy and the developer had a falling out so that deal is off. This is the bulk of the cities usage and there are conversations with other developers.
 - If EMC meetings went back to in person, in a city facility masks could be required.
- H. Reports and Updates from Committees None
- New Business Bob Berkebile's Foundation for Regeneration received a grant from EDC to revisit Blue Valley.
- J. Old Business None
- K. Remarks from Visitors -
 - Robin Ganahl inquired if an updated GHG inventory will be done along with the climate plan. Yes.
 - Mark Samborski works in urban agriculture. Is sometimes charged three times for water. He has
 determined that this is due to the fact that he collects rainwater for farming, but the way water is billed
 is not set up to handle this situation. Lara Isch has his contact information and will reach out.

The next EMC meeting is: DATE: August 11, 2021

TIME: 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm PLACE: Location Pending

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 pm.

^{*}Action Items