

SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION



Steve McGeehan
Commission Chair

~Meeting Minutes~
June 19, 2018

Kyle Steele
Staff Liaison

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<http://www.ci.moscow.id.us/commissions/Pages/sustainable-environment.aspx>

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve McGeehan, Amber, Fred Pollard, Sandye Crooks, Tina Hilding, Victoria Seever, Tim Hatten, Debbie Kadelec

MEMBERS ABSENT: Scott Fedale; Ilan Carter

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Kelli Cooper, Sustainability Technician; Brandy Sullivan, Council Liaison; David Hall, Mark Heinlin, Parks & Recreation Commission member; Dwight Curtis, City of Moscow Parks and Recreation Director; Carly Lily

1. Approval of minutes from the April 17, 2018-Steve McGeehan

Result: unanimous approval with revisions provided by members

Mover: Fred Pollard

Second: Victoria Seever

Approval of minutes from the May 15, 2018-Steve McGeehan

Result: unanimous approval with revisions provided by members

Mover: Victoria Seever

Second: Tim Hatten

2. Pesticides in City Parks – Dwight Curtis

ACTION: Take action as deemed appropriate or provide staff further direction.

Dwight Curtis, City of Moscow Director of Parks and Recreation, provided a presentation on the current Pesticide Application Program used by the City in the parks. Curtis stated that the guiding philosophy of the program is to minimize application of approved pesticides while balancing public feedback, time and climate. Pesticide applications are performed by licensed staff. There are currently 6 licensed applicators in the parks department: 1 full time manager and 5 full time staff members. Seasonal staff may assist under direct supervision of a licensee. General applications are performed in all the parks in the spring and spot treatments are used throughout the growing season as needed. Curtis also provided a table of the pesticides used, their classifications, and how and why they are used. A discussion of this list followed. Curtis went on to discuss how applications of pesticides are communicated to the public as well as some of the challenges in doing this. Announcements are made via the newspaper and social media outlets but can only provide a general time frame as the ability to pray is highly dependent

on conditions on the day of. Area signage is also placed in parks that have been sprayed. Curtis stated that safety is of the highest priority when it comes to spraying. Curtis then talked about a few pesticide reduction strategies that can be used such as heavy mulching and keeping the lawn lush to avoid weeds moving in. Curtis also pointed out that there are constraints to consider with pesticide applications such as the weather, programs taking place in the parks, school functions, budget, and the vast amount of area that needs attention by park staff. In conclusion, Curtis stated that the department is functioning within the current threshold, but is and has always been open to change. Some discussion followed regarding next steps. It was decided that the best approach moving forward would be to track inputs this year and form a subcommittee of Sustainable Environment Commission members, Parks staff, and Parks and Recreation Commission members to develop a plan for implementation starting next spring. The subcommittee will be responsible for doing research into best practices, and helping to establish baseline data this year. Curtis also suggested that the Otness pilot could be extended to the whole park so that the developed process could potentially be more useful elsewhere.

3. City Sustainability Report-Kelli Cooper

ACTION: Receive the report and provide applicable feedback to staff.

Cooper informed the commission that the Public Works Fair (part of Artwalk) went really well this year. Data is still being compiled but we got a lot many more visitors this year than last year. During the Fair, we had a new Stormwater mural installed in front of Bucer's Coffee House so be sure and check it out. Implementation of recycling at the Farmer's Market has been temporarily put on hold as we are having a transition in Market leadership right now. Cooper will be working with the new leadership on this as soon as possible. The Community Greenhouse Gas Inventory is going well. We are in the data gathering stage right now some data conditioning and input is taking place. The training provided by ICLEI has been really useful and is actually helping Cooper to refine and correct previous inventories to some extent. Cooper also has a Hands on Water event coming up on June 26th. The Adventure Club will be coming down to the Water Department to learn about City water infrastructure, our aquifer, water conservation and storm water run-off. The inter office recycling program has been expanded to include the Intermodal Transit Center, which has been added to the co-mingled recycling route.

4. Moscow High School Subcommittee-Ilan Carter

ACTION: Receive the report and take other such action as deemed appropriate

Carter was not in attendance so no report was received.

5. Request to Use SEC Funds - Steve McGeehan

ACTION: Approve the request to use SEC funds or take other such action as deemed appropriate.

Cooper explained that she had been doing some research on providing some native seed packets to hand out to Market goers at the upcoming Farmer's Market booth. Thorn Creek Native Seed Farm can provide bulk seed for repackaging by members to hand out at the Market. The

proposal is to use \$150 of SEC funds to purchase seeds and packaging materials to hand out at the Farmer's Market. A seed packing party will be arranged for members to help pack the seeds for distribution at Market.

Pollard motions that we use up to \$150 to purchase native seeds and packaging materials to hand out at the upcoming Farmer's Markets.

Hilding seconds the motion.

Motion approved unanimously

6. Announcements/Other Business

The first Farmer's Market booth by SEC will be on June 30th.

Sullivan stated that the Bike Share program committee is going well. They were recently visited by a company called Spin that offers dock-less bikes. They seem to have a very good system that also includes some powered bikes and scooters to make the program more accessible to everyone.

Hatten reported that the Public Utility Commission hearing on the AVISTA merger agreement went well. There were 14 people who testified with 10 for the merger and 4 against.

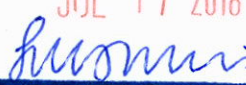
There will be a net metering seminar on June 28th from 6-7:30 at the 1912 Center.

The White Ave. Mobil Station is continuing to run water constantly. Nichole Baker is aware and is working with management to get the situation corrected.

Next meeting will be July 17th.

Minutes Approved On

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

JUL 17 2018

Clerk/Deputy Signature

Steve McGeehan, Chair (or stamped by Deputy City Clerk)