

SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION



Steve McGeehan
Commission Chair

~Meeting Minutes~
May 21, 2019

Kyle Steele
Staff Liaison

sec@ci.moscow.id.us

208.883.7133

<https://www.ci.moscow.id.us/581/Agendas-and-Minutes>

The meeting was called to order at 7:16 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Fred Pollard-Vice Chair; Kevin Booth (University of Idaho College Seat); Victoria Seever; Russ Moore; Tina Hilding

MEMBERS ABSENT: Steve McGeehan-Chair; Scott Fedale; Amber Ziegler; Carly Lilly; Ilan Carter (Moscow High School Subcommittee)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Kyle Steele, Staff Liaison; Katherine Bonzo, Council Liaison; Kelli Cooper, Moscow Sustainability Technician David Hall; Paul Kimmell, Avista; Vern Malensky, Avista; Jo Ellen Force; Andrika Kuhle; Mike Lounsbury; Sarah Deming; Mark Deming; Ian Schlater; Logan Tate; David Schlater; Julene Ewert; Antone Holmquist; Emery Hoobler; Susan Kendall; Carlin Forster; Morgan Suvata; Noah Lingo

1. Approval of minutes, with noted changes, from March 19, 2019-Fred Pollard

Result: Approved (Unanimous)

Mover: Kevin Booth

Second: Russ Moore

2. City Sustainability Report- Kelli Cooper

Kelli Cooper, City of Moscow Sustainability Technician, will update the Commission on the City's sustainability activities.

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

Kelli Cooper was absent, so no report was given.

3. Moscow High School Subcommittee- Ilan Carter

Report on sustainability activities at Moscow High School including the environmental club and soil society.

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

Ilan was not able to attend the meeting but sent the following summary:

“MHS Environmental Club/Soil Society Summary:

Environmental Club ran the elephant ear stand at the Renaissance Fair and made lots of money for Turtle Trip/other events scholarships. Myself and 3 other students from Environmental Club are registered and have plane tickets for CCL's annual lobbying

conference from June 9-11, and Mrs. Eareckson and a few other CCL members are also attending.

Soil Society is holding a picnic next Wednesday, the 29th, where all MHS students are invited to eat and play games in the outdoor commons. Soil Society provides free food and music for everyone. We also wrapped up our partnership with a U of I landscape architecture class that made multiple designs of what the outdoor commons could look like, and they presented their models to the club. The partnership is mostly good practice for the University students and a cool experience for us as High School students, but there are occasional pieces of their designs that we consider pulling from and actually creating, like the pergola we're building right now with the help of Tech club.

Thanks,

Ilan”

4. Why E-bikes are important for the City of Moscow – Palouse Prairie School

Students from Palouse Prairie School have conducted research on reducing our carbon footprint. They will make a presentation on how and why E-bikes make sense for the City of Moscow.

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

Andrika Kuhle had five of her 8th grade students from Palouse Prairie School at the meeting to give a presentation on why E-bikes and/or Scooters are a good option for Moscow and the University. The commission and community members received the report, gave feedback and asked questions of the students. Kathryn Bonzo suggested they talk with City employees who have already been working on this as well as the University who will be implementing this on campus this fall.

5. Continued Discussion of EMF– Robert Olsen

Dr. Robert Olsen (WSU Emeritus Professor of Electrical Engineering) will present a response to Mr. Cadwallader’s EMF/Dirty Electricity presentation.

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

Robert Olsen was not present.

6. Smart Meters and Energy Resource Planning – Paul Kimmel

Paul Kimmell (AVISTA Business and Public Affairs) will talk about smart meters. Paul will also offer the Commission the opportunity to participate in AVISTA’s Powering Our Future Resource Planning Game. This is a great way to understand what AVISTA does to provide energy to its customers using a diverse mix of energy resources.

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

Paul Kimmell, of Avista, gave a presentation pertaining to best practices on sustainability, carbon free generation, integrated resources and planning. He also talked about low emissions CO2 footprint, how to build vitality in communities and addressed challenges. Other information was shared with the commission regarding hydroelectric generation flexibility, coal, natural gas, wind, biomass (wood stock), solar generation, efficiency and energy storage. Paul addressed how Avista is also always planning on how to prepare for the resource mix in the future.

Vern Malensky, of Avista, informed the Commission that at this time Smart meters are only in Washington. Moscow has automated reading compared to Pullman which uses two-way communication; there is only one-way communication in Idaho. He also explained smart meters and how they work using radio frequency output. Resources for additional information can be found at www.myavista.com/smartmeters, and by going to Itron and searching under their Q & A.

7. Sustainable Design of the Proposed Police Station – Fred Pollard

The SEC was contacted by Garrett Cabeza (Moscow-Pullman Daily News) regarding our position on design of the proposed new police station. The SEC sent a letter to the Mayor and City Council in February 2018 asking that solar panels be considered. Fred will discuss additional aspects of sustainable building design and energy conservation.

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

The Sustainable Environment Commission would like to make recommendations about the new Police Station, if approved. They will plan to take public input led by Environmental Services Group through a community workshop. The Commission will be looking for Mayor Lambert to issue a call for ideas. Kyle Steele shared about what the ESG is already working on. It was brought up that Avista should be contacted before building starts for available incentives.

8. Announcements/Other Business

Next meeting (June 18, 2019).

Farmers Market Table (September 21, 2019)

Pioneer cemeteries workshop-David Hall

ADJOURN: 9:48 p.m.



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