

SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION



Steve McGeehan
Commission Chair
sec@ci.moscow.id.us

Regular Meeting
~Minutes~

Kyle Steele
Staff Liaison
208-883-7133

<https://www.ci.moscow.id.us/551/Sustainable-Environment-Commission>

Tuesday
April 20, 2021

6:00 PM

Mayor's Conference Room
206 E. 3rd St.

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

PRESENT: Steve McGeehan-Chair; Jamal Lyksett (Virtual); Kristin Haltinner (Virtual) Jassen Bluto (Virtual); Victoria Seever; Marley Pankratz (Virtual); Tina Hilding (Virtual)

ABSENT: Amber Ziegler; Natalie Wiley

STAFF: Jenifer Rossini, Administrative Assistant (Virtual); Kelli Cooper, Environmental Education and Sustainability Specialist (Virtual); Sandra Kelly, Council member (Virtual); Tim Davis, Sanitation Manager (Virtual); Tyler Palmer, Deputy City Supervisor Public Works & Services

OTHERS: David Hall (Virtual); Russ Moore (Virtual), Sarah Hendricks, Lauren O' Laughlin (virtual)

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Sustainable Environment Commission March 16, 2021 Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

Minutes presented for approval.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve minutes as presented; approve minutes with amendments; or provide staff further direction.

There was slight confusion with the approval of the February minutes, so Steve asked for a second approval and roll call vote.

Jamal moved February 16, 2021 minutes, Kristin second to approve minutes as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous Nays: None. Abstentions: None.

Jasen moved, Vicotria second to approve the minutes as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: All. Nays: None. Abstentions: None.

2. Public Comment and Response to Previous Comments (limited to 10 minutes)

Members of the public may speak to the Commission regarding matters NOT on the agenda or currently pending before the Commission. Please state your name and city of residence for the record and limit your remarks to three (3) minutes.

None offered.

3. Greenhouse Gas Goal Setting Framework (ACTION ITEM)

Kelli will review the Greenhouse Gas Goal Setting framework that was presented to the SEC at the March meeting. There is a council workshop on the 26th to discuss the framework and the potential for a new goal. The SEC will discuss and vote on endorsing the framework.

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

Kelli provided a brief summary of her Greenhouse Gas Goal report she presented at the March meeting. The plan is to present the new goal sector by sector to City Council. Kelli clarified that it's impossible to reach zero emissions, but would like to make a drastic cut. Tyler also went further to say, that going forward, we will be relying on new technology to help the City move towards the new goal. Kelli cited a few projects she has on her report:

- Energy reduction- LED upgrades, smart thermostats
- Building efficiency
- Window replacement

- Solar power
- Streetlight and traffic signals (many streetlights are already slated for upgrades)
- Fleet and equipment
- Employee commute (incentives for walking, biking, carpooling to work)
- Employee telecommuting
- Electric vehicle charging stations.
- Updating the sustainable purchasing guidelines for solid waste.
- Improving how the City tracks waste
- Solar or wind energy at the Water Reclamation and Reuse Facility.

Jassen expressed concern about how these projects would be funded. Tyler explained how these proposed projects are associated with existing projects within the City's Capital Improvement Plan, that are intended to make the existing projects more efficient and lessen greenhouse gas emissions. The goal of the workshop is for the Council to help provide guidance for the threshold they would like to see with these projects.

Tyler and Kelli are asking for a statement or letter of support to endorse this Greenhouse Gas Goal Setting framework to present at the Council Workshop. All agreed a letter would be best.

Victoria moved to support and endorse letter, Jameal second.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: All. Nays: None. Abstentions: None.

Jassen supports the framework, but does not support wind energy. He has read studies that windmills do not get back the carbon used to produce them.

Tina has a few worries with the framework. She believes it is not broad enough and doesn't involve the community. Kelli explained that a community wide plan or goal does not need to be mutually exclusive of a local government operation.

Another roll call vote was taken after Tina arrived at the meeting after it had started and expressed her concerns.

Victoria moved to support and endorse letter, Jameal second.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: All. Nays: None. Abstentions: None.

4. Master Recycler/Composter Program

Russ Moore and Lauren will present their vision for a community Master Recycler/Composter program and request feedback from the commission.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Receive the report, provide feedback, and take other action as deemed necessary.

The Master Recycler/Composter Program is program that teaches and empowers citizens to become better recycler and composters by helping them to reduce their waste, and understand the local landfill recycling and composting available to them. The program has the same layout as the Master Gardeners program and at times are hosted together. SEC members and City staff support this program and will discuss at future meetings the process of starting up this program in our area.

REPORTS

1. City Sustainability Report- Kelli Cooper

National Mayor Challenge for water conservation contest is currently happening. As of April 20th, the City of Moscow is placed 4th nationwide. Tyler gave a brief rundown regarding the new and upcoming Stormwater Division in Moscow, that will take affect October 2021. Aqua Lawn is moving to all electric lawn service this year.

2. Moscow High School Subcommittee Report- Ilan Carter

No report given.

3. Climate Action Working Group (CAWG)-Tina Hilding

They have presented the Impacts Assessment for input to the Transportation, Planning and Zoning and the Human Rights Commission. There was discussion about sustainable affordable housing, food availability, water conservation, electric charging stations and public transportation. Tina also said that many cities have changed the timeline and goal for zero emissions by 2050 instead of 80% reduction. Tina asked for input on ideas on how we can move forward and achieve this goal. Steve suggested visiting all the commissions in the City and making them aware of the work the CAWG is doing. Tina believes we have four tools: regulations, investments in infrastructure and equipment, financial incentives for business and advocacy that encourage decarbonization. Tina believes it is doable to do regulation changes, but she's uncertain how to begin that process. Tyler suggested inviting Bill Belknap (Deputy City Supervisor) to a future SEC meeting for further explanation of Idaho regulations. It was mentioned that the Chamber of Commerce may also have ideas. Next CAWG meeting will be May 3rd, 2021.

CCL is having a table at Friendship Square in regards to climate change and Tina would like attend to gather more public input.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This week is can week at the recycling center. They will be buying back aluminum cans for .40 cents a pound for Earth Day.

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS

1. Next Commission meeting is May 18, 2021

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 8:06 PM



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