

SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION



Steve McGeehan
Commission Chair
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Regular Meeting
~Minutes~

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

Tuesday
September 21, 2021

6:00 PM

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

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

PRESENT: Steve McGeehan-Chair; Victoria Seever-Vice; Tina Hilding; Gordon Wilson, Asaph Cousins

ABSENT: Natalie Wiley; Marley Pankratz; Jassen Bluto; Jamal Lyksett

STAFF: Jenifer Rossini, Administrative Assistant; Kelli Cooper, Environmental Education and Sustainability Specialist, Tyler Palmer; Deputy City Supervisor

OTHERS: David Hall

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Introduction of New Members

The SEC is pleased to welcome Gordon Wilson and Asaph Cousins to the commission.

2. Approval of Sustainable Environment Commission July 20, 2021 Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

Minutes presented for approval. Please note the August SEC meeting was cancelled so the July minutes must be approved at this meeting.

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

Victoria moved to approve July 20, 2021 minutes, Tina second to approve minutes as presented.

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

3. 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.

David mentioned the Annual Water Summit coming up on October 21, 2021.

4. City of Moscow Climate Workshop

Kelli will provide an update on the upcoming climate workshop scheduled for Sept 27.

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

In April 2021 the City announced to Council that they reached their goal of cutting carbon emissions from City operations by 20% from 2008-2020. After reaching this goal the City worked with the Climate Action Working Group and the Sustainable Environment Commission to create a new goal. On the 27th of September the City will present to Council a few things that were requested from the workshop in April:

- Carbon Sequestration numbers- to see where the City is on their carbon emissions.
- What goals should be set as a community; pushing the City goals outside of City operations.

Council did budget \$20,000 in the FY2022 budget to help fund this upcoming plan.

After the September workshop, the City plans to start drafting a climate action plan. In December they will go back to Council with the draft plan as well as make the draft plan available for public comment and review. The goal is to have the final climate action plan complete and ready for Council to adopt in spring 2022.

Kelli gave a general overview of her Greenhouse Gas presentation she presented to Council. Presentation is attached.

5. Climate Action Plan Support Letter (ACTION ITEM)

The CAWG has prepared a draft letter expressing support for the city's efforts to develop a Climate Action Plan. The SEC will discuss the letter and vote on sending to the Mayor and City Council.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Receive the report, vote to endorse the letter, or take other action as appropriate.

There have been times in the past where the SEC has been asked to write a letter of support for different actions the City has wanted to take. Examples of prior letters of support are; a grant for surface treatment for the City streets, April climate workshop and Volkswagen grant.

Gordon voiced his concern that climate change may not be 100% manmade. He believes climate is very complicated and there may be more involved with global warming than just human caused emissions.

One section reads "these challenging and expensive environmental impacts of climate change have the greatest effects on our marginalized and underrepresented communities" Steve suggested for Tina to clarify how this statement applies to Moscow.

Victoria moved to endorse a letter of support, Asaph second to approve.

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

REPORTS

1. City Sustainability Report- Kelli Cooper

Water Summit is October 21, 2021. Summit may be held virtual.

Alisa Anderson with the City of Moscow is working on obtaining the City's first public EV (electric vehicle) charging station with monies from the Volkswagen settlement. The University of Idaho does have a charging station on campus.

2. Moscow High School Subcommittee Report- Ilan Carter/Nicole Xiao

Reported from Kelli: There will be a climate walk out on Wednesday the 22nd.

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

Michael Jennings with the U of I says the University has extra biodiesel and asked if Tina would like to make use of it. Tyler explained that the City had issues with the biodiesel in the past.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Steve needed to know if anyone was interested in manning the public outreach table at the Farmers Market on Sept. 25th. Due to COVID and other personal commitments, there won't be an outreach table on Saturday.

Moscow League of Women Voters has a presentation about climate tomorrow the 22nd.

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS

1. Next Commission meeting is October 19, 2021

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 PM



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