

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
October 19, 2021

6:00 PM

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

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

PRESENT: Steve McGeehan-Chair; Tina Hilding-Vice; Victoria Seever; Gordon Wilson, Asaph Cousins, Al Poplawsky; Jamal Lyksett; Jassen Bluto

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

OTHERS: David Hall

ABSENT: Natalie Wiley; Marley Pankratz

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Sustainable Environment Commission September 21, 2021 Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

Minutes presented for approval.

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

Victoria moved to approve September 21, 2021 minutes, Tina second to approve minutes as presented.

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

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.

David mentioned Al's appointment to SEC, as well as water use concerns and a water use budget proposal that will be sent to new members.

3. City of Moscow Climate Workshop

Kelli will provide a summary of the Climate Workshop held Sept 27

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

Kelli says the presentation she gave regarding the climate action plan was positively received by Council. The Council does want to push for more community engagement within the plan. Originally it was slated to have a draft plan created by December, however it was decided to wait until January/ February 2022. It will then be available for public comment and afterward adopted in the Spring 2022.

4. SEC Mission Statement

Tina will discuss revision of the SEC Mission Statement to include topics related to climate change.

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

Tina was made aware by local high school members that climate change is not in the SEC mission statement. Based on their recommendations, Tina added a Climate change section to the mission statement (attached). Kelli clarified that City Council can amend the mission statement, and that the Council would take recommendations from the SEC. Tina asked about SEC holding public hearings, which is believed that SEC cannot.

Jassen believed that the climate change addition was not necessary. Victoria suggested that sections 1 and 2 could be combined to be more fluid (document attached). Jassen wanted to add pollination to the statement. Jamal suggested to add water quality and quantity as well. Tina will draft a new addition and Steve will send out for all to review.

Asaph questioned a sentence in the statement regarding the commission maintaining a data bank at City Hall to monitor health and environment situations. Kelli believed that the sentence in question was a legacy statement from when the SEC was called Health and Environment. Steve suggested updating the City website, which Kelli is currently working on.

REPORTS

1. City Sustainability Report- Kelli Cooper

Kelli is working on a new climate action plan webpage on the City website. This will help explain what is being done and what the next steps are.

Also looking into expanding the number of members in the Climate Action Working Group.

Water summit is this Thursday, the 21st

Nichole (Water Conservation Specialist) is looking to make updates to the water conservation plan, due to the drought this past summer. There was discussion about creating a water budget. Victoria suggested a joint meeting with Planning and Zoning about water with City officials.

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

Kelli says climate walk out was successful and college students also showed up.

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

Tina shared a letter of support from the Fair and Affordable Housing Commission (Attached).

CAWG has been working with local students on various climate projects. They have also been working on getting the website up and running. Tina says they are looking at more outreach opportunities too.

There were questions from Victoria regarding the summary of the 2017 survey.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee (PBAC) has started a water saving device program for those in Latah or Whitman counties outside Moscow and Pullman.

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS

Next Commission meeting is November 16, 2021

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM



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

From: Aimee Hennrich ahennrich@ci.moscow.id.us
Subject: FAHC Response to SEC
Date: October 15, 2021 at 9:41 AM
To: Tina Hilding waldings@gmail.com, Sustainable Environment Commission SEC@ci.moscow.id.us



Tina,

I wanted to again thank you and Nils for attending our meeting back in August. I apologize on behalf of the FAHC for the delayed response, our September meeting was cancelled due to a COVID exposé. Below is a statement that sums up the discussion that followed your presentation.

Best,

Aimee Hennrich

Planner I

City Of Moscow

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(208) 883-7095

Dear Sustainable Environment Commission,

We, the Fair and Affordable Housing Commission, would like to thank the Sustainable Environment Commission for reaching out to discuss climate mitigation strategies for Moscow from our perspective. We would like to first state that we as a Commission are in strong support of actions that can be taken in order to reduce the impact of climate change, as recommended by the SEC, and are encouraged by the recent "Ready For 100" commitment by City Council.

We have discussed strategies that we feel, from a housing perspective, would have a strong impact over time. Looking at factors like our top priority, ease of implementation, and most economically impactful action; the Commission felt that there were a number of notable strategies, all of which would have their own set of challenges. We are committed to partnering with you in an effort to implement any and all of the suggestions.

- Modifications to building/energy code when possible
- Programs that incentivize actions that reduce the impact of climate change as they relate to the housing sector (i.e. rebate programs that support the switch for natural gas to electric)
- Creating mixed used developments
- Code revisions to allow for smaller lots, higher density, walkable neighborhoods

We, as a Commission, feel that the biggest challenges to these and other climate change mitigation strategies will be execution over time, along with education. Change will take a collaborative effort on the part of many people and organizations across all sectors. Educational outreach and access to available programs as they become implemented will

be key. We would like to express our commitment and willingness to partner with the SEC in furthering sustainable fair and affordable housing. If we can help aid in reaching this goal we would be happy to help in any way we can.'

Kind Regards,

The Fair and Affordable Housing Commission

for promoting the public health and safety of citizens of Moscow. The duty of the Commission shall include, but not be limited to, conducting public hearings; receiving public comment; and gathering, assessing, and evaluating information pertaining to the health and environmental concerns of the City. The Commission shall maintain a data bank at City Hall to assist it in monitoring health and environment situations. Further, the Commission may implement programs with the consent of the Council to achieve the stated duties.

Specifically, the Commission will make recommendations to the Council on the following matters:

- A. Pesticide/Chemical Use: recommending voluntary guidelines for the use of pesticides and other potentially harmful chemicals in and around the city by:
 - 1. encouraging adoption of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) on all property within the City;
 - 2. developing procedures to notify the public as necessary when and where chemical application is to occur, subject to voluntary provision of prior notification by applicators when such application involves property not owned by the City.
- B. Air Quality
 - 1. informing the public regarding proper use of solid fuel heating appliances to reduce emissions;
 - 3. developing procedures to notify the public when an air pollution alert has been declared;
 - 3. develop recommendations to deal with air quality issues which affect Moscow residents.
- C. Water Quality: recommending programs for the protection of water quality and quantity (as it relates to water conservation) with emphasis on groundwater, surface waterways and drainages within Moscow and a buffer zone extending five hundred feet (500') in width beyond the city limits boundary.
- D. Waste Stream: aiding the City in

implementing programs relative to waste reduction, recycling, and deposits specifically by providing review of the solid waste reduction and education program.

- E. Any other health and environmental issues as may be directed by the City.
(Ord. 2003-09; 04/08/03)

Sec. 9-5. Rules of conduct.

The Commission shall address issues and concerns relating to health and the environment not currently being addressed by other local boards, commissions or groups. The Commission may offer assistance to other local entities in relation to health and environmental concerns.

Sec. 9-6. Reports.

The Commission shall make full and complete annual reports to the Mayor and Council. Other reports shall be made to the Mayor and/or Council as necessary.
(Ord. 2002-10, 04/16/02; Ord. 2003-09; 04/08/03)

Chapter 9

**SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT
COMMISSION**

- Sec. 9-1: Statement of Intent and Purpose
- Sec. 9-2: Commission Established
- Sec. 9-3: Organization
- Sec. 9-4: Duties
- Sec. 9-5: Rules of Conduct
- Sec. 9-6: Reports

Sec. 9-1. Statement of Intent and Purpose.

The City intends, by the establishment of this Sustainable Environment Commission, to solicit advice and information about sound environmental management practices for promoting the public health and safety of the citizens of Moscow.

(Ord. 2008-23, 10/20/2008)

Sec. 9-2. Commission Established.

There is hereby established a Sustainable Environment Commission. This Commission shall consist of up to nine (9) voting members serving without pay. A non-voting member of this Commission shall not be considered in determining the number required for a quorum or whether a quorum is present. Members of the Commission shall be appointed by the Mayor, with the consent and approval of the City Council. Not more than three (3) members of the Commission may reside outside the city limits. Except as otherwise specifically provided herein, the term of office of the Commission members chosen from the residents at large shall be three (3) years, or until their successors are appointed and qualified, except that the members of such Commission will be appointed and/or reappointed to such term that the terms of approximately one-third (1/3) of the members expire annually thereafter. There shall be one (1) ex-officio member who shall be a member of the City Council, who shall

not vote, and whose term shall be two (2) years. Where possible, this Commission shall include at least one (1) student enrolled at least three quarters (3/4) time in a post secondary educational program, who shall serve a one (1) year term, which term may be renewed. At least one (1) student enrolled in high school or an equivalent educational program shall serve as a non-voting member of this Commission for a one (1) year term, which term may be renewed. This Commission shall also include at least one (1) Latah County resident who does not reside within City limits who shall serve as a non-voting member of this Commission for a three (3) year term.

The members shall hold office at the pleasure of the Mayor. He may revoke their appointment at any time and for any reason he deems sufficient, with approval of the City Council. Any vacancy in such Commission occurring other than through the expiration of a term, shall be filled by the Mayor, with approval by the City Council, for the unexpired term.

(Ord. 2008-23, 10/20/2008)

Sec. 9-3. Organization.

The members of the Commission shall meet and organize by electing one of their members chairperson, and such other officers as may be necessary, every year on the first regularly scheduled meeting after January 1. Roberts Rules of Order shall regulate the conduct of business. A majority of members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum. The Commission may establish subcommittees and advisory committees to advise and assist in carrying out the duties of the Commission. Where possible, this Commission shall coordinate efforts with other local boards, commissions, and groups. A record of meetings, hearings, testimony, resolutions, studies, findings, and actions taken shall be maintained.

Sec. 9-4. Duties.

It shall be the duty of the Commission to advise and inform the City Council about sound environmental management practices

1. **Climate change:**

1. **Working with city staff and academic experts to assess climate impacts to the city of Moscow**
2. **Working with city staff and the public on climate action planning, including mitigation and adaptation planning**
3. **Recommending educational opportunities, statutory changes, infrastructure updates, or incentives that will help the community address climate change challenges.**

