

SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION



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

Regular Meeting
~Minutes~

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

Tuesday
March 22, 2022

6:00 PM

Council Chambers
2nd Floor City Hall
206 E. 3rd St

The meeting was called to order at 6:16 p.m.

PRESENT: Tina Hilding-Vice; Victoria Seever; Al Poplawsky; Olivia Weibe; Gordon Wilson; Asaph Cousins

STAFF: Jenifer Rossini, Administrative Assistant; Kelli Cooper, Environmental Education and Sustainability Specialist

OTHERS: Julia Parker; David Hall; Tim Davis

ABSENT: Steve McGeehan-Chair; Marley Pankratz; Sophie Gilbert; Jassen Bluto; Jamal Lyskett;

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Sustainable Environment Commission February 15, 2022 Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

Minutes presented for approval.

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

Victoria moved to approve February 15, 2022 minutes, Al 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.

No comments were given.

3. Moscow's Solid Waste Management Program

Tim Davis (City of Moscow Sanitation Manager will discuss how our landfill and transfer station works and the operation of the Recycling Center

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

Tim says there are a few different wastes that are dealt with; MSW (municipal solid waste), household waste, non MSW waste. In the 1990's all new MSW facilities faced new federal regulations with more stringent standards such as; poly liners, ground water monitoring, leaching collection of treatment systems.

To be compliant with new regulations facilities needed to either quit accepting MSW or close existing landfill. Our local landfill choose to stop accepting MSW waste, and started shipping waste to Oregon.

811 truckloads sent to Finley Buttes landfill this past year. 6.4 million this current year budget. 20,000 tons of MSW a year shipped to Oregon. Moscow is 65% of that tonnage.

There is also a biosolids compost facility at the Solid Waste Processing Facility. There are four compost bays. Compost bays are ventilated to help with the process.

4200 tons of biosolid 5500 tons of solid waste are composted annually at the site. Household hazardous waste is free of charge.

30% of Moscow's waste stream goes to recycling center.

In the Sanitation survey curbside composing was evaluated but would be an extra charge to citizens; citizens gave an overwhelming disinterest.

Does not believe we will collect other plastics in near future.

First Saturday of month is plastic film collection at recycling center. 15-20 thousand lb. a month taken to Trex.

Whitman county is exploring at opening a local landfill.

Discussion about food compost starting with restaurants and grocery stores.

4. Mayor's Earth Day Awards

The SEC will discuss nominations for the Earth Day Awards.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Review the nominations and take action as deemed appropriate.

Nominations so far are: Climate Action Working Group, City of Moscow Police services building project, City of Moscow Parks, Nancy Chaney, Nicole Xiao, Pollinator summit, climate justice league.

5. Tabling opportunity at the Moscow Farmers Market

Citizen Commissions including the SEC are invited to table at the Moscow Farmers Market.

This is an excellent opportunity for public outreach on the activities of our commission and to seek public input on the topics we discuss.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Discuss potential dates and take action as deemed appropriate.

Asapah and Olivia are both interested in sitting at the table.

June 4th, and September 10th are tentative dates.

REPORTS

1. City Sustainability Report- Kelli Cooper

Climate action plan update: 34 public comments submitted to Kelli so far. Online forum went well online.

Earth Day activities:

April 22nd 9:30am is downtown cleanup, meet at Friendship Square.

Earth day awards ceremony on April 18th during City Council.

City Nature Challenge, Latah against Whitman county. Nature Pictures are taken and then an identification event is held. Whoever gets the most pictures wins.

Pollinator summit was well received.

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

No report given.

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

Discussion about the climate action plan draft.

What is the role now that the draft plan has been written? Would they been able to recommend implementation to the commission?

Jeff Hicke is looking for stakeholders for a possible grant. Tyler says CAWG and SEC can be involved in research, anything involved with City would have to go through Council. To be named on the Grant as a contributing member would need to go through the Council.

There was talk about Boise density housing development that Tina took pictures of that she would like Moscow to encourage a shift to this type of housing. Meeting with Fair and Affordable housing and Planning and Zoning Commission.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS

Next Commission meeting is April 19, 2022

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve McGeehan", written in a cursive style.

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