SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION

Steve McGeehan
Commission Chair

sec@ci.moscow.id.us

~Meeting Minutes~
February 20, 2018

Kyle Steele
Staff Liaison

208.883.7133

http://www.ci.moscow.id.us/commissions/Pages/sustainable-environment.aspx

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve McGeehan, Scott Fedale, Victoria Seever, Tina Hilding, Debbie Kadlec, Tim Hatten, Mete Yuksel

MEMBERS ABSENT: Fred Pollard, Carly Lilly, Brandy Sullivan (Council Liaison)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Kyle Steele, Staff Liaison; Mary Dupree; Al Poplawsky; Brian Ogle; David Hall; Mac Kentrel (CCL); Ilan Carter (Moscow High School)

1. Approval of minutes from the January 16, 2018-Steve McGeehan

Result: Approved (Unanimous)
Mover: Fedale
Seconder: Kadlec

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.

Steele informed the members that a targeted post card mailing was sent out to approximately 1,800 homes constructed prior to 1994 (toilets installed before 1994 aren't up to the current code of 1.6 gallons per flush) to let them know about the toilet and lawn rebates program. Staff is planning Earth Day Activities and will be hosting a movie at the Kenworthy. More details on the movie and date will be announced at the March meeting.

3. City of Moscow and the Citizens' Climate Lobby-Palouse Region – Al Poplawsky and Mary DuPree

Discuss letter prepared by Citizens' Climate Lobby-Palouse Region Chapter recommending the City of Moscow join other Idaho cities in encouraging effective climate/energy legislation.

ACTION: Vote on sending a letter to the Mayor and City Council and provide staff further direction.

DuPree asked McGeehan to discuss the history regarding the initial letter that the CCL proposed to the members. McGeehan reminded the members that the SEC voted last year to support CCL's letter to the

City Council. DuPree then showed a short video about the Carbon Fee and Dividend and why CCL prefers this approach nationally. It was stated that a national, revenue-neutral carbon fee-and-dividend system (CF&D) would place a predictable, steadily rising price on carbon, with all fees collected minus administrative costs returned to households as a monthly energy dividend. 77 municipalities have pledged support. There was discussion about how to approach the issue here in Moscow. Seever and others recommended to DuPree and Poplawasky to consider meeting with each council member to educate them about this type of approach. DuPree and Poplawsky agreed to meet with each member and will report back to the SEC at a later date.

4. Follow-up discussion: Avista's Involvement with Coal-fired Electric Plants- Tim Hatten

Tim requested that the SEC have a follow-up discussion on Paul Kimmel's presentation.

ACTION: Receive the report and take other such action as deemed appropriate or provide staff further direction.

Members discussed the presentation that Mr. Paul Kimmell from Avista gave at the January meeting. Hatten noted and others agreed that it doesn't appear that Avista plans to divest from Coal anytime soon, which is discouraging because other utilities in the Pacific Northwest have announced that they are planning to do so. There was general discussion about how and whether the City can affect Avista's power portfolio and the role of the SEC. After discussion, Tim stated that he would work on a letter to the council encouraging the council to send a letter to Avista requesting they divest from Coal in the near term.

5. Moscow High School Subcommittee-Mete Yuksel
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

Yuskel introduced Moscow High School student Ilan Carter who will be replacing Yuksel on the SEC in June. Yuksel informed the members that the MHS Soil Society is working on the outdoor commons area. They are trying to convert the former volleyball sand-pit into a larger garden area.

6. Earth Day Awards – Steve McGeehan
The City of Moscow is seeking nominations for the Mayor's 2018 Earth Day Awards. The awards recognize Moscow residents for activities conducive to environmental sustainability.

ACTION: SEC members and guests will prepare nominations for individuals and organizations. The SEC will also organize nominations received from Moscow community members. A final list of nominees will be forwarded to the Mayor for consideration.

The members discussed the topic and agreed to come up with various nominations and categories for the awards this year for discussion at the March Meeting. McGeehan will send out an email containing background information on the awards, the 2017 Nominations which will give members an idea of the information needed for each nominee, as well as information on previous award recipients.

7. Letter to the City regarding solar panels on new police station- Scott Fedale
Scott has drafted a letter asking the City to consider the installation of solar power in the construction of the new city police station.

ACTION: Discuss and approve the letter or take other action as deemed appropriate.

Members discussed the revised letter drafted by Seever and Fedale and voted unanimously to send the letter to the City Council.

Result: Approved (Unanimous) **Mover: Hilding** **Seconder: Hatten**

8. SEC recommendations related to climate change preparedness and the Comprehensive Plan – Victoria Seever

Victoria will provide a brief update on activities and any new developments.

ACTION: Receive the report and take other such action as deemed appropriate or provide staff further direction.

Seever reported that there are no new developments concerning the Comprehensive Plan modifications.

9. Announcements/Other Business

McGeehan informed the members that the Farmer's Market will be starting in May and the SEC will need to submit their requests and availability for tabling at the 2018 Farmer's Market season.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

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