

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
June 21, 2022

6:00 PM

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

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

PRESENT: Steve McGeehan-Chair; Tina Hilding-Vice; Victoria Seever; Sophie Gilbert; Jassen Bluto; Al Poplawsky; Asaph Cousins

STAFF: Kelli Cooper, Environmental Education and Sustainability Specialist

OTHERS: Elizabeth Landis, Jason Holm, Nancy Chaney, Maureen Laughlin, Von Walden, Brandon Mitchell, Dan Schoenberg, Greg Landis, Seth Bloomsburg

ABSENT: Jamal Lyskett; Jenifer Rossini, Administrative Assistant; Olivia Weibe; Gordon Wilson

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Introduction of new SEC member - Ian Schlater

Ian was not able to attend this meeting.

2. Approval of Sustainable Environment Commission May 17, 2022 Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

Minutes presented for approval.

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

Minutes will be approved at July meeting. Committee was unable to review May minutes.

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.

None.

4. 100% Energy Clarity

Elizabeth Landis, M.A. (The Ohio State University), Jason Holm (Operations Planning Manager for AMSOI), and Greg Landis, O.D. (Indiana University) will provide a presentation behind the clean energy curtain, in order that we as a city and its citizens might make the best-informed decision with the many options before us.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Receive the report.

Jason states that each wind turbines contains 300 gallons of oil, and Tesla also needs oil for lubrication.

He also believes fear is a big motivator to convince people of climate change. And the government has a hidden agenda to their motives.

Talked about electric cars and the environmental impacts mining for the battery's metals are causing. He also brought up the Texas polar storm in 2020. (See attached handout)

Jason believes that in order for Moscow to be 100% clean energy they need to be ready for the following:

- Power outages
- Need to add baseline infrastructure to supply the grid at a moment's notice.
- Exceptionally high electric costs.

Al pointed out that as technology is constantly changing, and in ten years the chances of us using lithium batteries for electric vehicles may be slim.

5. Climate and Energy

Von Walden is a professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and the Laboratory for Atmospheric Research at WSU. He conducts research in the polar regions, where he studies infrared radiation and the greenhouse effect. He has taught courses on climate change since the late 1980s.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Receive the report.

Von started by saying climate change is not a belief system, it is a science. And as long as we keep putting carbon dioxide into the atmosphere the temperature around the globe will continue to go up. Scientist from various countries have all signed and agreed on the wording from reports generated by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Von believes two things need to happen to our energy systems:

- 1) We need to stop and reverse biomass burning. Ten percent of the problem with rising CO2 is biomass burning.
- 2) Switch from fossil fuels to renewables. Maintain use of nuclear.

Von says renewable are cheap, dependable and will work great for our small county. The investment in equipment and in the operation of renewables remain cheap for about 15 years.

REPORTS

1. City Sustainability Report- Kelli Cooper

Last week was Artwalk.

Nichole Baker will be leaving the City July 1, 2022.

2. Moscow High School Subcommittee Report- Ian Schlater

Received grants to purchase 11 set of educational solar panels; project is called Solar Bears. Moscow Environmental club is going to present about the EPA electric school bus rebate program.

He is in discussion with district about installing solar panels on district buildings.

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

CAWG did not meet this past month.

Idaho Department of Transportation is holding a meeting about electric vehicle infrastructure in Idaho on July 26th at the Lewiston Library at noon.

For July's SEC meeting, Omar will be there to talk about a degree program in the works called Carbon Conscious Construction. The program is to teach how to lower CO2 emissions and meet Washington demands.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nancy says District 6 representative, David Nelson, successfully co-sponsored a bill that will allow Idaho schools to receive funding for electric school buses.

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS

1. Farmers Market Table – July 2
2. Next SEC meeting July 19, 2022

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.



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