

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
March 21, 2023

6:00 PM

Mayors Conference Room
1st 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; Al Poplawsky; Maureen Laflin-Council Liaison; Ian Schlater; Asaph Cousins; Gordon Wilson; Sam Gallaher

STAFF: Kelli Cooper, Sustainability Program Coordinator, Jenifer Rossini, Administrative Assistant

ABSENT: Jassen Bluto; Sophie Gilbert

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Sustainable Environment Commission January 17 and February 21, 2023 Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

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

Minutes presented for approval.

February minutes corrections: Asaph was absent, Lee Anne Erickson spelled incorrectly, Russell has 2 ll's and Cities vs City's.

Victoria also has changes to Gordons nomination for earth day awards.

Victoria moved to approve the February 2023 minutes with corrections, Gordon second to approve minutes as presented with corrections.

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

Al moved to approve the January 2023 minutes with corrections, Victoria second to approve minutes as presented with corrections.

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

None.

3. Mayor's Earth Day Awards

The SEC will discuss nominations for the Mayor's Earth Day Awards.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: take action as deemed appropriate.

Tina nominates Ian Schlater for all his work with the school. She also nominates Mary Dupree for Citizens Climate Lobby, Climate Action Working Group, and Transportation Commission.

Victoria nominates the Unitarian Universalist Church for their new solar roof. They are completely electric now, no gas.

Through in email Art Bettge nominated Camden Court HOA.

Ian nominates Lee Anne Erickson with Moscow High School.

Kelli nominated Matt Pollard with the Moscow Alternative School and his work with the confluence project, and snow science. As well as the Moscow Stormwater Dept, Marques Miller from City of Moscow staff, and City of Pullman Environmental Resiliency Program.

Steve nominates University of Idaho's Iris Mayes and Ember Powell for their work on the Pollinator summit and Master Gardener Program.

The SEC nominates, and compiles the nominations and the mayor makes the final choice.

4. UI Entomology Club

The Entomology Club is organizing a Solitary Bee Hotel Workshop and is wondering if the SEC would be interested in sponsoring the event, specifically by providing pollinator wildflower seeds that could be given away at the event with the bee houses.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: take action as deemed appropriate.

Henry and Patient are working to make this an annual event. They are co-sponsoring it with WSU. They will be offering solitary nesting bee houses. Those who attend will be able to listen to a presentation and will receive a bee house.

There will also be live insects on display and insect drawers from a museum. They are estimating around 50-100 people attending.

Steve believes SEC should order more seeds for this event and for future farmers market events.

Al moved to buy seeds and donate to local events, Gordon second.

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

5. City Parks Pesticide List

We will continue the discussion of the City Parks Pesticide List.

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

Kelli has the list of City pesticides that have been used last 2 years. Neonicotinoids haven't been used last 5 years. It is only used for the aphids downtown. Generally, aphids only become a concern when the public complain about the "honeydew" caused from the aphids.

This list is the City Parks Department list not the City as a whole. Parks will be working on making a master list.

Victoria moved to approve the City Parks Department pesticide list, Sam second to approve the list as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Steve, Gordon, Sam, Tina, Victoria, Asaph Nays: None.
Abstentions: Al **Motion carried.**

5. Moscow Farmers Market

The Moscow Farmers Market has opportunities for city commissions to staff a table at a Saturday market. The SEC will discuss our interest in tabling, potential tabling activities, and possible dates.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: take action as deemed appropriate.

The group is interested in manning the booth, for June 3rd and Sept 9th. Steve will ask Amanda if these dates are available.

REPORTS

1. City Sustainability Report- Kelli Cooper

Kelli has been working on education and outreach for water conservation, new updates to water conservation plan, and increasing amount for lawn rebates.
Climate action projects are in the budget.

Earth day awards are coming up and Kelli asked for recommendations for writing the proclamation
She is also working on April event planning, and City nature challenge.
Downtown cleanup is April 21st 930-11am at Friendship Square.
Workshop with Iris Mayes University of Idaho Extension will be having an irrigation system maintenance workshop.
WSU Centers for Engagement is having a service learning project for next semester. They are requesting ideas for wisescape planning.
Vinyl wrap going up at Russell Elementary School for water footprint on water fountains.
Free shred day is April 22nd from 9 to 3.

2. Moscow High School Subcommittee Report- Ian Schalter

Environmental Club is asking people to come in to talk about environmental topics during their Thursday lunch hour from 12:27 to 1:02pm.
Climate Justice League got approval from district to send out request for donation/pledges for solar project funds. They are applying for 2 grants as well.

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

Mike Ray from Community Development Department will be coming Monday with a presentation surrounding incentives and working together.
There is a webinar March 22nd on electric vehicles charging stations grants.
Avista is planning a meeting with integrative research planning.
The Intergovernmental Panel of Climate Change (IPCC) latest report is calling for urgent action to battle climate change.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Palouse Clearwater Environmental Institute is hosting a pollinator event on Saturday.
Sam suggests adding the IPCC report to the Earth Day proclamation.

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS

1. Next SEC meeting 4/18/2023

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:08 PM



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