

SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION



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

Regular Meeting
~Agenda~

Kyle Steele
Staff Liaison
208-883-7133

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

Tuesday
January 16, 2024

6:00 PM

Mayors Conference Room
1st Floor City Hall
206 E. 3rd St.

WELCOME AND ATTENDANCE

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Sustainable Environment Commission December 12, 2023 Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

Minutes presented for approval.

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

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.

3. Election of Officers (ACTION ITEM)

Per Moscow City Code Title 3 Chapter 10, Section 10-3, the commission must elect officers who shall serve one-year terms as chair and vice-chair.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Nominate and elect a Chair and Vice Chair for 2024 or take such other action as deemed appropriate.

4. City of Moscow Sanitation Division

Tim Davis (Sanitation Operation Manager) will speak on some recent updates and happenings within the City's Sanitation program.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: discuss and take action as deemed appropriate.

SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION



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

Regular Meeting
~Agenda~

Kyle Steele
Staff Liaison
208-883-7133

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

Tuesday
January 16, 2024

6:00 PM

Mayors Conference Room
1st Floor City Hall
206 E. 3rd St.

5. Letter to Home Depot (ACTION ITEM)

SEC members will discuss and vote on a recommendation to City Council that they send a letter to Home Depot asking that they work with us on their and our climate action plan goals.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve the recommendation and letter as presented; approve with amendments; or provide further direction.

6. Potential Topics for Future SEC meetings

SEC members are asked to submit and discuss potential topics for 2024 SEC meetings.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: discuss and take action as deemed appropriate.

REPORTS

1. City Sustainability Report- Kelli Cooper
2. Moscow High School Subcommittee Report – Mia Heinlein
3. Climate Action Working Group – Tina Hilding

NOTICE: It is the policy of the City of Moscow that all City-sponsored public meetings and events are accessible to all people. If you need assistance in participating in this meeting or event due to a disability under the ADA, please contact the City's ADA Coordinator by phone at (208) 883-7600, TDD (208) 883-7019, or by email at adacoordinator@ci.moscow.id.us at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting or event to request an accommodation. The City of Moscow is committed to ensuring that all reasonable accommodation requests are fulfilled.

Ron Jarvis, Chief Sustainability Officer
The Home Depot
???? Call for address 1-800-HOME-DEPOT (1-800-466-3337)

January, 2024

Subject: Offer to collaborate on sustainable development for new Home Depot in Moscow, Idaho

Dear [Recipient's Name],

Congratulations on breaking ground for your company's new facility in Moscow! We are pleased to welcome The Home Depot to the Palouse.

We are encouraged to learn about Home Depot's environmental ethic and, especially, its recent commitments to reduce carbon emissions and to produce or procure 100% renewable electricity for all Home Depot facilities worldwide by the end of 2030. Your company has taken important steps to support sustainability and resilience, and we look forward to working with you to address the significant climatic challenges ahead.

As you may be aware, Moscow also has a strong tradition of sustainability efforts, setting some of Idaho's first-ever community climate goals. In 2022, Moscow passed a Climate Action Plan, a culmination of a years-long effort from a wide range of community participants. The Climate Action Plan aims to reduce our community's carbon emissions by more than half by 2035. We are initiating implementation efforts to meet those goals.

It would be our pleasure for our committee or a representative/s from our committee to meet with a Home Depot representative/s, to discuss your vision for the new facility and to share ideas about our City's Climate Action Plan and your company's sustainability objectives.

Given our strong, mutual commitment to sustainability, we hope that your new building here will be a model for a low-carbon, net-zero construction in Moscow.

Our specific focus areas for consideration include:

1. **Energy Efficiency:** Implementing energy-efficient technologies and practices to minimize the facility's energy consumption and environmental impact.
2. **Renewable Energy:** Incorporating renewable energy sources, such as solar panels, to generate clean energy on-site, including providing shaded parking.
3. **Water Conservation:** Utilizing water-saving technologies and landscaping practices to reduce water consumption and promote sustainable water management. Water scarcity is a significant and growing concern on the Palouse.

4. **Multi-modal transportation** Continuing Moscow's tradition of a pedestrian and bicycle-friendly community by establishing accessible bikeways, walkways, support for public transit, and accommodation of electric vehicles.
5. **Urban forest/tree canopy:** While they pull carbon from the atmosphere to help mitigate emissions, trees can also aid adaptation in a warming climate, providing cooling and reducing heat island effects.

Collaborating on these initiatives will demonstrate Home Depot's dedication to sustainability and reinforce your brand as a responsible corporate citizen within the Moscow community.

We look forward to the opportunity to discuss these ideas further and explore how we can work together to showcase a new business that aligns with our shared climate objectives and yields positive and lasting impact on the environment and community well-being.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to meeting with you.

Sincerely,

C: Chris Berg, President, Western Division, The Home Depot

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
December 12, 2023

6:00 PM

Mayors Conference Room
1st Floor City Hall
206 E. 3rd St.

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m.

PRESENT: Steve McGeehan; Jassen Bluto; Gordon Wilson; Sam Gallaher; Victoria Seever; Al Poplawski; Tina Hilding; Maureen Laflin (Council Member)

STAFF: Kelli Cooper

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Sustainable Environment Commission September 19, 2023 Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

Minutes presented for approval.

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

Tina moved to approve the September 2023 minutes, and Victoria second to approve minutes as presented.

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

Nick (University of Idaho) would like for the City of Moscow to claim a climate and ecological emergency. He also believes there are a lot of “holes” in the Climate Action Plan. Nick expressed that it was important for the younger generation and people with different ethnic backgrounds to be involved in Moscow’s commission; as there currently isn’t.

3. Water Summit Follow-up

Discussion of the highlights from the 2023 Water Summit.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: discuss and take action as deemed appropriate.

Erica Gies, author of Water Always Wins, was the keynote speaker. Her main message is that no matter what you do to divert or control water, it always finds a way to its correct, natural path. Al talked about the natural path of our own Paradise Creek, and how some of the creek is quite unnaturally straight and farmers farm right up to the creek. But he also says there are sections of the creek that meander and allow space for beavers. Group talked about different ways the City tries to control the beavers and where they build their dams.

At the summit there wasn't much talk about the water alternatives that are being discussed. SEC would like for the PBAC (Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee) director to do a presentation for them soon.

4. Potential Topics for Future SEC meetings

SEC members are asked to submit and discuss potential topics for 2024 SEC meetings.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: discuss and take action as deemed appropriate.

- Alternative water sources.
- Curbside composting
- Food waste into compost program
- Invite U of I to discuss a large grant that was awarded to help with agricultural sustainable issues
- Inviting SEL to talk about their new building

REPORTS

1. City Sustainability Report- Kelli Cooper

Mayors of Pullman and Moscow are participating in the Wyland Foundation Mayors Challenge for water conservation. There will be a friendly competition between the two towns on who can save more water.

Pullman and Moscow are working together on a regional water conservation plan. Kelli says they would like to involve the counties and universities in on the plan.

U of I has started a water conservation working group.

Kelli is working on updating the greenhouse gas emissions data.

2. Moscow High School Subcommittee Report- Mia Heinlein

No report.

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

They are starting to work on an implementation plan.

CAWG is working on a letter to Home Depot regarding their upcoming build. SEC would need to approve the letter before moving up to Council for final approval. Tina says the letter would be to encourage sustainable building practices.

CAWG is in talks with U of I on starting a community solar project.

WSU Has started a new sustainable committee.

The latest newspaper column highlighted resiliency and the next will be on induction stoves.

December 13th League of Women's Voters will be talking about climate change.

Mary Dupree recommended home energy audits. Avista preforms them, but it is around a 6 month wait.

The group is talking about giving away low-cost energy saving products instead of or with handing out seeds next year at farmers market.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS

1. Next SEC meeting set for January 16, 2024

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at



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