

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
January 16, 2024

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: Victoria Seever; Gordon Wilson; Al Poplawsky; Julia Parker-Council Liaison; Asaph Cousins; Tina Hilding; Sam Gallaher; Sophie Gilbert

STAFF: Kelli Cooper; Tim Davis

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Sustainable Environment Commission August 15, 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.

Al moved to approve the December 2023 minutes, and Sam second to approve minutes as presented.

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

Tina added that Nick plans to bring more info along with the proposed climate emergency proclamation.

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. 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.

Victoria Nominated Steve for Chair
Al Nominated Tina for Vice

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

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.

Tim says one item they have addressed is conflicts with commercial pickup and dump trucks in alley ways in downtown corridor. Worked with businesses on garbage pickup hours to help curtail this issue.

Sanitation Dept is also working on a closure plan for a site at the local landfill that should be done soon.

They have been working with University of Idaho to expand single stream recycling program. Currently it is only for business office spaces.

Tim talked about the fuel volatility recently.

Sanitation is evaluating proposing 200 gallon-300 gallon poly carts- increased efficiency by replacing 1 yard dumpsters for solid waste allowing automated trucks to pick up (30-35% less cost to consumer); Recycling 200-300 gallon poly containers for multifamily and businesses; proposal going to council

Asaph volunteered to generate a letter to submit to City Council on starting a food waste compost program.

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.

It was suggested to take out "pleased" from the introduction considering the controversy in the area about their upcoming presence.

There were some other minor word changes to make the letter clear that it is coming from the Climate Action Working Group.

Victoria moved to approve the letter to be sent to Kyle Steele and onto Council for final approval, and Al second to approve letter as presented.

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

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.

- Identity and invite different groups to meetings; University organizations/groups and local tribes.
- Avista Technical planning process committee
- City of Moscow Cody Riddle and code changes
- Sewage energy reclamation
- Survey results
- Planning Farmer's market table
- Earth Day Awards
- Water conservation plan
- Tour SEL facility with Kirby Johnson
- Appaloosa solar project in Pomeroy, WA/ photovoltaic feasibility
- Rebate and tax credits

REPORTS

1. City Sustainability Report- Kelli Cooper

Water conservation plan updates and code changes.

U of I have formed a water conservation group which will develop their own water conservation plan. End goal is a regional conservation plan

Greenhouse gas inventory in progress.

Information about Wyland Challenge

2. Moscow High School Subcommittee Report – Mia Heinlein

3. Climate Action Working Group – Tina Hilding

1. Folks have been getting energy audits. The company that does those in our area is looking to hire and can train. Quantum Inspections was the company, 509 879 9277. Our auditor did a great job and provided a free comprehensive report. Avista's estimate for how many people want audits was way too low. Their goal is now couple hundred a month.
2. Newspaper column success – last month was about induction stoves. This month is EV cars. Please share widely and on social media.
3. Letter to Home Depot. To be shared with council/Mayor to share with the company. Tina would like to develop a positive, generic version to share with builders/developers as they come in for permits.
4. Community solar efforts – met with UI's Sarah Dawson about how to work with the UI on community solar. Also met with Karin Hilding, city engineer in Whitefish, Montana, about a community solar project there. A big solar project is going in in Pomeroy – Appaloosa Solar Farm, and there is a comment period, apparently.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS

1. Next SEC meeting set for February 20, 2024

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:28 PM



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