

Greenhouse Gas/Energy Conservation Team

Meeting Minutes

June 11, 2009, 12:00-2:00 pm

140 W. Pine, City Council Chambers

Members: Brian Kerns, Jim Kuffel, Nancy Wilson, Steve Patrick, Ben Schmidt, Sam Hall, Julie Osborn

Facilitators: Susan Anderson (Sustainable Business Council), Gary Bakke (Chamber of Commerce)

I. Call to Order: 12:10

II. Roll Call Present: Ben Schmidt, Sam Hall, Jim Kuffel, Nancy Wilson, Brian Kerns, Steve Patrick

Absent: Julie Osborn

Others Present: Susan Anderson, Gary Bakke, Owen Weber

III. Announcements:

Mr. Schmidt said the county's email system has been having technical difficulties and is receiving sporadic communications. Mr. Schmidt proposed that the team meet in August to have a working group session on projects and not a team meeting. Two vacancies will be up the end of July.

IV. Public comments on items not listed on the agenda. (Required by law)

None

V. Approve meeting minutes of May 14, 2009.

Mr. Schmidt motioned to approve meeting minutes for May 14, 2009, all in favor.

VI. Non-Action Items:

A. Conservation Committee Update—Summer Agenda

Still in the works to set up a date.

B. Renewable Energy Credits Update—Marketing

Mr. Kerns announced that the sustainable campus committee at the University indicated they may be the first 'sale' of the REC's. BEF did change the rate of return from 10% to 20%. Marketing development discussion in regards to website, PSA's, recommendations for the proceeds. Mr. Schmidt said the Health Dept website has own domain under air quality; can build on that site if necessary. BEF will provide text content as well. The team will discuss further marketing strategy and options next month and for ideas of the blitz in launching this program when ready.

Public Comment: Susan Anderson offered the university students have an option of paying fees on tuition bill, \$10 a year to support their recycling system; maybe students could choose to pay a little more to offset their energy needs thru this process.

C. Community Energy Project Follow-up

Mr. Kerns will report on this topic at a later date in light of the full agenda.

D. LED Lighting-Subdivision Review Follow Up

Mr. Kerns introduced Owen Weber a student that worked on the inventory study and shared that some of his information is included in this topic. Mr. Kerns provided an overview of the elements in the lighting district contracts with NorthWestern Energy, and that Great Falls did an analysis and found they have paid 4x over the cost for the poles and lighting in their districts with the fees and charges included in the contracts. Contract automatic renewal process discussed. Option for contract review would be for citizens to petition as a district and bring concerns forward. Ms. Wilson recommended

the city to look into current contracts and negotiate to move toward LED lighting rather than move toward city ownership of lighting. Mr. Kerns stated that maybe the lighting could be phased in, establish a start point; maybe a parking lot for example.

Public Comment:

Gary Bakke talked about the process in creating the lighting ordinance and the amount of light emitted is dependent on the source of lighting. When NW energy engineers explained the details it was determined that LED lighting would require a reengineering of all the lights in the districts. The type of lighting used may require a change in the dynamics of the engineering, placement, etc. Maybe the engineers should come and have the discussion with this team.

Mr. Kerns referred to a Pacific Gas & Electric detailed study of directional lighting which has good information on LED lighting and will forward a link to that study to the team. Mr. Patrick commented that it would be good to have NorthWestern Energy come and present their information as well. The team agreed.

VII. Action Items

A. Transportation—Municipal Incentives Program Nancy Wilson

Ms. Wilson presented a document in support of Missoula In Motion's 'cash for commuters' program. The details of the program were discussed, concerns and suggestions shared. Mr. Patrick expressed this being Missoula in Motion's program; they should take the lead and then ask for our support when bringing it before whatever government channel necessary to get it funded and going.

Ms. Wilson will make minor edits to the recommendation and circulate prior to next meeting and she will invite Alex Stockman to attend as she will be unable.

Public Comment: none

VIII. Adjournment: *Mr. Schmidt* made motion to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 1:50 pm.