

Greenhouse Gas/Energy Conservation Team

Meeting Minutes

July 9, 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, Julie Osborn

Absent: Brian Kerns, Nancy Wilson

Others Present: Susan Anderson, Gary Bakke, Ross Keogh, Pam Walzer, Alex Stokman

III. Announcements:

Ben Schmidt said there will be no official meeting of the team in August, there will be a working session to develop a marketing plan for the green tags program. Sam Hall and Brian Kerns are looking into community energy project options; placement of project, how to benefit from federal and state tax credit programs, talking with energy provider folks. Jim Kuffel is not renewing his application for renewal. He thanked the group for being allowed to participate and he has learned a lot.

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

Alex Stokman announced that the new position, Energy Efficiency and Conservation Coordinator block grant position administered out of OPG has been filled by Chase Jones, formerly of Missoula in Motion. A specific grant in the stimulus money funded this position for two years.

Gary Bakke commented that the LED street light issue was brought forth on March 22 in form of a petition by the Mayor of Billings, and Dr. Paul Williamson from UM asking to require a similar change-over of outdoor street lighting to LED. The Public Service Commission deemed in May that at this point in time is not satisfactory as energy savings or cost effective use at this time. With technology changing rapidly, would revisit it in the future, but at this time is not cost-effective.

V. Approve meeting minutes of June 11, 2009.

There is a typo in III. Announcements: Two vacancies will be up they end of July....take out the 'y' in they to make it the. **Mr. Schmidt** motioned to approve meeting minutes with type change for June 11, 2009, all in favor.

VI. Action Items:

A. Transportation-Municipal Incentives Program Recommendation to City Council

Alex Stokman, Missoula In Motion .

Alex commented that she was asked to create an incentive program to increase bus ridership among the City of Missoula Employees which receives free bus ridership. A draft proposal was submitted for the team's recommendation in support of or not, to move forward to the Conservation Committee. Alex fielded some questions of details, particulars, etc.

Mr. Schmidt made the motion to accept the letter as written to forward to Conservation Committee.

Mr. Patrick seconded.

Public comment: none

Debate: Mr. Patrick would like to see in the recommendation a link to a funding source; tie into Green Tag revenues possibly.

An amended motion to include one possible source of funding for the City for these types of projects would be the application of Green Tag revenues was made by **Mr. Schmidt**. **Mr. Patrick** seconded. All in favor.

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to include Greenhouse Gas & Energy Conservation Team not GGEC committee in the three places abbreviated in the support letter. **Mr. Patrick** seconded. All in favor.

VII. Non-Action Items

A. Conservation Committee Update—July 22 @ 9am

It would be appropriate for Alex to attend this meeting as the transportation proposal will go forward at this time. Forestry Initiatives will be given 30 minutes at this meeting.

The Conservation Committee is contemplating adding another alternate position for the team. Pam Walzer commented that additional bodies to help carry out the mission may be helpful. Some discussion on the intent to increase the number of persons on this team ensued and thoughts were shared and how the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Coordinator staff person will interact with this body.

Mr. Schmidt stated he would mention future project actions of the team: which may include looking into LED street lighting, how to move forward with a website page, mention the community energy project and discuss the building recommendations we worked on. Committee feedback will help direct where to go from here.

Public Comment: none

B. Renewable Energy Credits Update—Marketing

Mr. Schmidt circulated the draft marketing action plan for review. Ms. Osborn expressed it would be nice to provide some specifics on what we would like the Mayor to do for promotion of this launch. City could decide to purchase energy credits; it is open to the public at this point. Ms. Osborn would like to see an achievable target goal for the City to work towards in purchasing credits in the plan. Mr. Patrick suggested including service groups in the outreach.

Mr. Schmidt recapped that things to consider are: a discussion with the mayors climate change group may be in order (Ms. Osborn volunteered to approach them), work on setting a target, develop recommendations for how to spend the proceeds-transportation initiative, energy efficiency projects, community energy project, etc., be specific in asking the Mayor what we would like as far as promotion of the program,

Public Comment: Gary Bakke announced an opportunity tonight 5:15-7pm to view new 'green' home will the best of energy systems utilized at 2635 Rodrick Way.

Mr. Schmidt will make necessary additions to the marketing plan and web ideas and circulate prior to meeting in August to strategize and set goals and get specifics ironed out.

VIII. Adjournment: *Mr. Schmidt* made motion to adjourn. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 1:50 pm.

**Missoula In Motion
Draft Bus Incentive Proposal
“City Employee Cash for Commuters”**

Cash for Commuters rewards city employees who currently drive alone to work when they agree to start using Mountain Line to get to and from work and earn \$2 per day, up to \$180 over an assigned 90-day period.

Background:

Missoula In Motion was asked to create a program to increase the awareness and participation in the Mountain Line City bus pass program. Based on a 2009 employee emissions survey, 70% of respondents (125) drive alone to work on a daily basis. The majority of the energy usage and emissions are due to single occupancy vehicles (81% of total MMBTUs and MtCO₂). Mountain Line reports that the current monthly average of City bus pass ridership is 377, in 2009, and was 355 in 2008.

Purpose:

The Cash for Commuters program encourages drive alone commuters who would not otherwise try the bus to change their commute behavior in an effort to improve air quality and reduce traffic congestion. Drive alone commuters are offered an incentive to try Mountain Line for their commute to work in the hopes that they will continue to use the bus once the incentive has ended.

Timeline:

Market and promote mid September, with the 90 day period to begin October 1, 2009 – December 30, 2009.

Outcomes:

Engage 50 employees for 62 work days to be paid \$2, per day for a total of \$6200.

Increase city bus pass awareness and an overall increase in usage of the city bus pass.

This program could conservatively save the following emissions for 20 city employees changed from driving alone to riding the bus for 3 days a week and their commute was 3 miles (6 miles round trip):

- 494.41 pounds of CO₂/year
- 77.22 pounds of Hydrocarbons/year
- 22.23 pounds of Nitrogen Oxides/year

Budget:

Prizes (maximum) \$6,200
Marketing \$ 200
Total \$6,400

Current Commuters

Already using a clean commute alternative? Employees are eligible to participate in the Way to Go! Club program.