

**Greenhouse Gas/Energy Conservation Team
Meeting Agenda
December 9, 2010 12:00-2:00 pm
City Council Chambers, 140 W. Pine**

Members: Ben Schmidt, Chair, Brian Kerns, Dan Daily, Ross Keogh, Alexander Sievers, John Freer, Julie Osborn

Members Absent: Owen Weber, Katie George

Others Present: Morgen Hartford, Marilyn Marler, Susan Anderson

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

I. Announcements:

Brian Kerns stated the University is considering an installation of a biomass boiler system on campus, and he discussed the proposal that was held on Wednesday at the University.

II. Public comments on items not listed on the agenda:

None

III. Approve meeting minutes:

The Minutes for November 15, 2010 were passed unanimously.

IV. Administrative:

A. Request for University of Montana Student Intern.

Morgen Hartford stated he is a University of Montana student in his senior year studying Sustainable Food & Agriculture and Climate change studies. He is the chief organizer for the ASUM student group of 1000 new gardens. He has been working with the Office of Planning & Grants on the Green Blocks program and noted they have installed 14 new gardens throughout the City to date.

Mr. Hartford stated he is interested in the internship program for his next semester. He has read the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory analysis and it contains his interest and he will work on any projects that need attention. His interests also include LED lighting, reduced wastewater volume, municipal energy bonds or conservation districts and municipal building efficiency measures.

Ben Schmidt clarified the internship includes six hours per week. He noted the team has enough expertise on all issues and the members can help guide Mr. Hartford.

Brian Kerns asked Mr. Hartford if he is interested in making presentations and speaking to the City Council. Mr. Hartford replied yes.

Mr. Kerns suggested the energy credit program is a worthwhile program to work on and discussed the components that go with it.

Mr. Hartford stated he will commit to the team and accepts the internship.

V. Non-Action Items:

A. Missoula Green Building Incentive Group Update.

John Freer stated they continue working with Northwest Energy Star regarding funding and create an incentive that will provide a monetary benefit to a home owner or builder who is a certified Green & Energy Star. He noted it has been difficult to generate funds.

Marilyn Marler suggested speaking with the Missoula Building Industry Association (MBIA) and asked if he is a member.

Mr. Freer stated he is the Vice President of MBIA and stated they have discussed the issue at great length.

Ms. Marler suggested Ginny Merriam, City Communication Officer could help create a press release.

VI. Action Items:

B. Recommendations for the City to support at the 2011 legislative session.

Mr. Schmidt stated the GGEC began referencing specific Bills in 2009 that interests the City officials. The GGEC is proposing a general concept to areas that are important to the team.

Mr. Schmidt noted number 6 is very broad and the heading will be changed to "Oppose legislation that reduces or hinders sustainable development".

The committee addressed the six items and agreed to the language changes. Marilyn Marler clarified the six topics discussed is what the lobbyist will look for. She suggested the GGEC watch for the specific bills and suggested a recommendation to the Conservation Committee to look for legislation that addresses the six issues.

Ms. Marler stated she will ask Mayor Engen how the lobbyist gets their specific instructions. She said questions can be presented to the Conservation Committee and guidelines will be addressed on how to forward your recommendations.

The team agreed to contact Ginny Merriam, Communications Officer to write a press release regarding the six items.

- Continue support for the Renewable Power Production and Rural Economic Development Act (also known as the RPS) which required regulated utilities, primarily Northwestern Energy, to procure renewable energy at increasing increments with a goal of 15% by 2015.
- Increase net metering to 200.

- Support rules that allow the formation of Building Improvement Districts to procure funding for energy retrofit projects.
- Prioritize transportation projects that help reduce or minimize GHG emissions.
- Comprehensive waste disposal programs (recycling, composting, etc.)
- Oppose legislation that reduces or hinders sustainable development.

John Freer moved to approve the language changes to the six item list that is recommended for the City to support at the 2011 legislative session.

The motion was approved unanimously.

C. LED Lighting Proposal.

Owen Weber was absent – No update

VII. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Elam

Kelly Elam
City Clerk Office