



**Greenhouse Gas Energy Conservation Team
Meeting Report
October 13, 2011 - 12:00 - 2:00 pm
City Council Chambers, 140 W. Pine
Missoula, Montana**

Members: Ben Schmidt, Chair, Julie Osborn, Ross Keogh, Alexander Sievers, Dan Daly

Members Absent: Brian Kerns, Katie George, John Freer, Owen Weber

Others Present: Sam Hall, Cherie Peacock

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

I. Announcements:

Mr. Schmidt stated Mr. Daly and Mr. Keogh continue their work on the Municipal Climate Action Plan.

The Pumpkin Run is scheduled for Saturday, October 15th located at the Ogren Park at the Allegiance field. This is the 16th year for the fundraiser and the proceeds go to the Missoula Food Bank.

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

None

III. Approve meeting minutes:

Mr. Schmidt proposed amendments to the [September 8, 2011](#) report. Non-Action Items, second paragraph; the language was corrected to the following, "the City website receives more hits than the County website, because the County's information is a little more hidden." Chase Jones, Office of Planning & Grants updates the City website often.

The minutes for September 8, 2011 were approved with the amendments.

IV. Administrative:

A. Municipal Climate Action Plan Update

Mr. Daly stated he attended a webinar called Energy Cap and it is offered to municipalities and state entities. They measure and track energy consumption on buildings from their billing cycles.

Cherie Peacock, University of Montana said she attended the webinar also, and the information offered was gathered and compiled. She feels the real challenge is with the Fleet & Facilities category because it is difficult to gather accurate data. The complex part is analyzing the cost and reductions from greenhouse gas emissions.

IV. Non Action Items:

A. Utility Lighting Rebates

Mr. Schmidt introduced Sam Hall and noted he is a previous member of the GGEC Team.

Mr. Hall is currently employed with The National Center for Appropriate Technology (NCAT), and he discussed an overview of the company's mission. NCAT is a nonprofit organization and the headquarters is located in Butte, MT with four additional offices in the nation. Their mission is to help people with small scale local sustainable solutions to reduce poverty, promote healthy communities and protect natural resources.

NCAT promotes a sustainable energy program that focuses their efforts in Montana with energy efficient programs that includes farm energy efficiency and commercial energy efficiency. They also create and distribute educational brochures regarding energy systems and their purpose.

He provides assistance to contractors with the Northwestern Energy conservation programs by providing technical assistance, marketing support, and he projects administration to support their commercial energy efficiency programs. He noted in 2006, NCAT saved 45 million kilowatt hours which are equivalent to 170 rail cars full of coal.

Northwestern Energy promotes two rebate commercial energy efficiency programs, and they are designed to offset the costs of conservation for businesses. The rebate programs cover both natural gas and electricity conservation measures.

He is involved with the commercial lighting rebate program that promotes lighting upgrades for commercial and industrial facilities; the paybacks are good and the program is successful. The Business Partners rebate program is designed for more costly projects and requires NCAT personnel.

NCAT offers free services to the commercial industrial account holders and NCAT is compensated from the utility company when conservation projects are implemented.

The team discussed NCAT's services and benefits.

B. Mullan and Reserve Street Trail Update

Mr. Schmidt stated he continues to work with Territorial Landworks and does not have enough information of the cost involved, and he will present an updated report to the team in December.

He researched the SID criteria and learned the process is complicated and may not be practical for the trail project, because there are only three adjacent properties that would be involved. The team will seek alternative funding options.

C. The University of Montana Sustainability Plan – Coordination with the City

Ms. Peacock discussed an informational Powerpoint presentation regarding the University's Climate Action Plan. She said the inventory plan includes transportation, on campus steam plant and the purchase of electricity. The Powerpoint consists of graphs of the University's strategy plan and she discussed each section of the plan. She noted the plan continues to encourage and educate employees and students to use energy wisely.

The team discussed detailed questions regarding their plan.

VI. **Action Items:**

A. Attendance at Full City Council meetings

This item has been postponed to the November meeting.

The November meeting will include Alderwoman Marilyn Marler and Alexander Sievers will present a Passive House presentation. Mr. Ross will present information from the City Climate Action Plan.

VII. **Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 1:38 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Elam

Kelly Elam
City Clerk Office