



**Greenhouse Gas Energy Conservation Team  
Meeting Report  
November 10, 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, Brian Kerns,

**Members Absent:** John Freer, Owen Weber

**Others Present:** Marilyn Marler

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

I. **Announcements:**  
None

II. **Public comments on items not listed on the agenda:**  
Ms. Marler mentioned there is a Home Resource Benefit auction tonight from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm located at the Missoula Winery and everyone is invited.

III. **Approve meeting minutes:**  
The minutes for October 13, 2011 were approved unanimously.

IV. **Administrative:**  
**Municipal Climate Action Plan Update**  
Mr. Keogh stated there is enough funding to employ a second person as an Energy Core member for 10 months. The Leadership Team will meet early December and a regular meeting is scheduled late in December.

An evening meeting will be scheduled for presentation and public comment and he feels the GGECT is the appropriate venue for this process. After the process the plan will be presented to the City Council for approval.

The Team agreed to schedule an evening meeting in 2012 and invite the City Council to attend.

Mr. Schmidt stated the plan will need to be presented to the City staff and employees.

#### **IV. Non Action Items:**

##### Passive House

Mr. Sievers discussed a presentation named "Strategies for Extreme Efficiency" and it relates to the basics of [Passive House](#). The homes offer a 90% heating and cooling reduction and he discussed the energy savings that passive homes offer.

There are currently 20 to 30 thousand passive houses in Europe and they are becoming more popular. Currently, there are not many in the United States and one reason is builders are not aware of the technology to build them.

The team clarified and discussed the information in the PowerPoint presentation.

##### Coordination with Marilyn Marler – How the GGEC should proceed.

Mr. Schmidt reviewed the team's structure to update Ms. Marler with their progress. He mentioned in the past the team created the Green Tag and the recycling bin program. They were involved with the legislative recommendations to the City Council, and currently the team is involved with the City Climate Action Plan and moving it forward.

Mr. Keogh stated he does not currently have any additional ideas to form as a group. He said the City Climate Action Plan will be passed by resolution and the GGEC will continue to monitor the plan and the online feature "Energy Cap" as it moves forward.

Ms. Marler suggests the GGEC not make their role too specific because to be an effective committee, there needs to be room to change their project and policies. The future committee members will need to be able to participate as their interests and skills permit.

She thanked the members who are currently working with the Mayors Climate Plan. She asked if the group will dissolve after the plan is created.

Mr. Keogh thought that it will. He would like the outcome move to a wider municipal and community climate action plan that reaches everyone.

Ms. Marler clarified Mr. Keogh's statement and asked if the program needs to be broader because it focuses on government buildings and include the private sector. Mr. Keogh agreed.

Ms. Marler asked if the team would like suggestions from the City Council for a new direction.

Mr. Daly noted he has been a team member for one year. He stated the climate action plan will eventually move forward to a wider community plan, and he feels the team should stay involved. He is not aware of a defined plan for the GGEC purpose.

Ms. Osborn stated she has served on the team for approximately two years and she has seen many changes including the action plan, legislative issues and the team roles. She feels the past year has been more nebulous because the composition of the teams

activity and changes. She personally would like more dialog between the team and the City Council as it would help her feel more focused.

Mr. Kerns said he and Mr. Schmidt have served on the team the longest to date. At times the composition of the team has been stagnant causing the team to struggle for other projects and sometimes it feels unproductive. He has participated in the council discussions and feels quarterly meetings are sufficient and does not feel the need for higher supervision.

Mr. Schmidt stated he has been a member on the GGEC since 1996 and has continually worked on the Climate Action Plan. He started with specific issues in 2004 that he wanted to accomplish, and he feels he has accomplished the various tasks with help.

The team is currently working on creating a new trail development at Reserve St. and Mullan Rd., and he is out of ideas and would like to get involved in a project process.

Ms. Marler mentioned the council has been discussing the trail system with Dave Shaw, Parks & Recreation Department. She suggested contacting Mr. Shaw to discuss the trail details.

Mr. Schmidt said he has previously discussed the trail issue with Mr. Shaw and he furnished names of engineers to contact. He has contacted the engineers for cost estimates, but hasn't heard from them, but is hesitant to keep bothering them.

Mr. Keogh said he feels there are not enough interactions between the City Council decisions, the Conservation and the GGEC input. He is not sure of how the committees should interact with the council.

He feels the City's population is large enough to move forward with the climate plan and energy conservation. He is not sure what the procedures are, but it is worth discussing and to give the GGEC a defined role.

Ms. Marler asked if he is referring to specific contract work, building a new facility, building code changes or all three issues.

Mr. Keogh does not feel the GGEC should be involved with everything, but there are issues that the GGEC could provide assistance and prioritize the energy conservation and greenhouse gas reduction options.

Ms. Marler said there is an agency review list that each entity checks off after reviewing various projects when the project pertains to them. She suggested contacting Mr. Verrue, Building Director to discuss adding energy efficiency to the agency list.

The economy has limited new building, but when it does happen it would be nice to have the GGEC expertise added to the comment process.

Mr. Keogh suggested inviting the administrative personnel to a GGEC meeting for their input. Ms. Marler agreed and suggested inviting Mr. Bender, Mr. Stucky, Mr. King, Mr. Verrue, Ms. Gaukler and Jackie Corday.

Mr. Schmidt stated the GGEC needs to discuss and choose a mission, so the team is effective.

Mr. Keogh suggested inviting department staff to learn what their department roles are and the GGEC can canvas these areas to see if there are any essential synergies.

Ms. Marler suggested scheduling the mentioned administrative staff at the same time, because it will make the discussion more effective. She said the GGEC members are knowledgeable and contain the skills to provide productivity. She thanked the team for their hard work and inviting her and offering their input.

**VI. Action Items:**

Attendance at Full City Council Meetings

Mr. Schmidt cancelled this discussion and noted this item will develop in time.

**VII. Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 1:17 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

*Kelly Elam*

Kelly Elam  
City Clerk Office