

Greenhouse Gas/Energy Conservation Team

Meeting Minutes

April 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 12:15

II. Roll Call Present: Ben Schmidt, Sam Hall, Julie Osborn

Arrived late: Brian Kerns

Absent: Steve Patrick, Jim Kuffel, Nancy Wilson

Others Present: Gary Bakke, Ryan Morton, Pam Walzer, Jackie Corday,

UM students giving a presentation: Russ VanPaeppegem, Michelle Lanzoni, Katie Makarowski, Michael Lattanzio and Bethany Taylor

III. Announcements:

Welcome to new member Julie Osborn representing the conservation sector.

Will be meeting with the Conservation Committee on April 15 at 9am to look at the forestry issues and the potential of expanding membership of the team. If anyone has any input contact Ben or show up at the meeting to express comments.

Will move to the action item A. Buildings as Sam Hall needs to leave early for another meeting.

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

Jackie Corday, City Parks & Rec updated that the city 'green team' finalized things that can be done to reduce fuel, paper, electricity and water use. The list of 57 items was narrowed down to 25 which was disseminated to all city employees to participate in these efforts. She distributed copies of those actions to the team.

Pam Walzer commented that the city may be receiving stimulus money for energy conservation efforts. Jackie Corday added that the share for Missoula is \$680,000 and in order to receive that, the City has to write up a plan by June 25. The Mayor and staff are working on that plan.

V. Approve meeting minutes of March 12, 2009. Will need to do when quorum is present.

VI. Non-Action Items:

A. Municipal Emission Inventory Update (60 min)

Five students working on the preliminary inventory provided an overview of the project sector they are working on. Each one presented preliminary findings on their 'section' of the inventory based on the five milestones of ICLEI (International Council of Local Environmental Initiatives) aimed to begin with a baseline emissions inventory and forecast for City Government, adopting an emissions reduction target, develop local action plan, implement policies associated with that plan, then monitor and verify the results.

Sectors to be studied include: Buildings; Commuting; Municipal Fleet; Water; Waste Water Treatment; Street lights and Traffic signals. This is first step to get that process going. The focus is on municipal government to get an inventory of emission that could result from various sectors, compiling a report and working on data collection using the clean air and climate protection software

that ICLE developed which allows input of energy use and cost data and software will calculate greenhouse gas emissions and CO2 equivalents and criteria air pollutants.

Recommendations and suggestions include:

Municipal Fleet: use of more high efficiency vehicles, like the two-seater pick-up bed vehicles
Chipping—replace the chip that controls combustion

Water: in regards to the recent discovery of Mountain Water having a 40% water loss due to leaky pipes, it was asked what the average is. 10-30% water loss is average in US. It was suggested to look into what type of equipment was used to find and detect leaks in the Boston study and share that with Mountain Water.

Provide a progressive plumbing code example.

Look at unmetered water use for irrigating parks; would there be any payback associated with having metered use. It would be good to know the breakdown of water usage by parks for pools vs. irrigation to target conservation recommendations since it is such a large user.

Use of grey water for irrigation brought up, comment made that the DEQ is in rule-making process.

MFCU was the first commercial bldg in town to apply to use it.

City is looking at billing for sewer by usage for those that are metered as a means to encourage people to conserve water usage.

Having a cost-share program available to install water meters would assist where it would be cost-prohibitive to residential users due to plumbing modifications.

Recommendation from presenter: some easy changes with how and where records are kept in the City, if that can be streamlined early on, evaluation of efforts and expanding from municipality to residential recommendations will be easier to channel efforts.

Street lights and traffic lights person is unable to make it to today. It was reported that the city is only responsible for 11 traffic lights and most are LED's. Suggestion made that it would be good to have some knowledge of what is a 'better' lighting system could NW energy upgrade them (owns the light poles leased by the city) or the city purchase the bulbs to save on usage therefore reduce lease price maybe

Waste Water: it was suggested to look into the poplar program at the sewage treatment plant and if that will enable or account for a carbon credit. Take into account the growth since the base year, try to determine how much electricity is necessary per thousand hook-ups in treating waste water would be helpful in planning and projection for future use demands.

In regards to sewage treatment, how much water is necessary to move the solids to the plant and how much water is required for aeration. What is the % of current loss of water in the sewage lines. Want to ensure that before there is focus on conservation of water, that it won't create a problem. Comment made that these suggestions may be more pertinent from a community wide perspective rather than city use.

General comments:

When you make recommendations, if you can equate that recommendation to savings would be great, people need to understand or 'see' how that will affect the outcome.

Try to normalize the data in final findings

Conclusion:

The goal is to get a final report that at presents what we have thus far, identify any sources of error or uncertainty and provide recommendations to follow to the Mayor and his team by end of UM semester mid-May. If there are further recommendations or a way you would like to see the information presented, those doing the research are open to suggestions. For general comments, they can be directed to Professor Robin Saha, for those targeted toward a particular sector, the person doing that sector or through Dr. Saha.

B. Sustainability Coordinator update

May be funded through stimulus funds

VII. Buildings—not discussed

VIII. **Adjournment:** *Mr. Kerns* made motion to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.

*any supporting documents or presentation items pertaining to the team's meetings are on file with the City Clerk's Office