



Energy & Climate Team formally (GSEC)

Meeting Minutes

May 9, 2013 12:00-2:00 pm

140 W. Pine, City Council Chambers

Members Present: Ben Schmidt (Chair), Brian Kerns, Alexander Sievers, Dan Daly, John Freer, Aaron Hanson, Molly White, Amy Cilimburg, Julie Osborn

Members Absent:

Others Present: Chase Jones

Facilitators: Susan Anderson (Sustainable Business Council), Kim Latrielle (Chamber of Commerce)

I. Announcements:

Ms. Cilimburg stated the State of Montana Building Code Division is conducting a listening session on the building code updates. The meeting is scheduled on May 21st at 10:00 a.m. located in the City Council Chambers, 140 W. Pine. She feels it may be a good idea for some team members to attend this meeting, because there could be energy efficient issues. The team discussed energy codes and Mr. Alexander and Mr. Freer agreed to attend.

Ms. Cilimburg stated the Public Service Commission (PSC) issued a notice of investigation request for comments. They are considering changes to the universal system benefit (USB) program. There is a coalition of rural income and conservation practice groups that will collect the comments and forward them to the PSC. The comments are due on June 21st.

The team discussed USB issues and agreed to discuss the teams concerns with the City Council. They will request the council to submit a letter to the PSC.

II. Public Comments on Items not listed on the Agenda:

None

III. **Approve Meeting Minutes:**

Minutes for January 10, 2013, January 24, 2013 and February 14, 2013 were approved as submitted.

IV. **Administrative:**

A. **State Legislative Review and Summary of "What worked best"**

The team discussed how the EC approached the Legislative process and how to proceed in the future. Mr. Schmidt stated every session the process changes because technology and lobbyists continue to change.

Mr. Schmidt feels clarifying the language in all bills will show the true intentions and specifics of what the EC is recommending. The general comments lacked specifics and the lobbyist was confused on the team's intentions. He noted it is difficult because recommendations go through the administration, then onto the lobbyist.

Ms. Cilimburg agreed and mentioned adding the exact verbiage worked well. She feels planning ahead and having extra meetings helped the process.

Ms. White stated she organized the bills and it was difficult to keep up with the bill details because they change so fast. She would like to find a better way in the future to keep track of them more efficiently.

The team discussed the details of bills and how to approach the lobbyist with recommendations.

Ms. White noted SB-106 became a law.

V. **Non-Action Items:**

A. **Renewable Energy projects: Northwestern Energy spokesperson. Questions from the team.**

Northwestern Energy was unable to attend.

B. **Discussion of Conservation & Climate Action Plan Technical Advisory Team (CCAPTAT).**

Mr. Jones, Conservation & Climate Action Plan Technical Advisory Team stated the team is formatted with eight volunteers, four mayor appointees and four from the Energy & Climate Team. The mayors appointees are Brian Von Lossberg, Andrew Valainis, Cherie Peacock and Beth Schwenk, and they have all accepted the positions.

Mr. Jones asked which four of the E&C members would like to serve on the team. The team discussed and agreed Ms. Cilimburg, Mr. Sievers, Ms. White and Mr. Hanson will serve on the CCAPTAT with the remaining members to assist with special projects.

Action Items:

A. None

VI. **Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Elam

Kelly Elam
City Clerk Office