

Minneapolis Community Environmental Advisory Commission Meeting

Thursday October 8, 2015 3:30-5:30

Minneapolis City Hall Room 132

Meeting Notes

Attendees: Dylan Bradford Kesti, Allan Campbell, Eduardo Cardenas, Lisa Daniels, Darrell Gerber, Tony Hainault, Jen Kader, Andrew Murray, James Nash, Roxxanne OBrien, Brian Ross, Michelle Stockness

Others in Attendance: Gayle Prest, Kelly Muellman, Stephen (guest), Council Member Cam Gordon, Jamez Staples

Absences: Anna Abruzzese, Adam Arvidson, Meleah Houseknecht, Alejandro Ojeda

1) Meeting Called to Order

Michelle Stockness called the meeting to order at 3:42PM. There was no quorum at this time to approve the agenda and September minutes. There was consensus to move forward with the agenda, noting that Brendon Slotterback was out sick and the presentation on the Public Utilities Commission E Docket would be moved to November's meeting.

2) Green Zones Update

Kelly Muellman presented on the proposed process to develop a citywide Green Zone Policy. Staff has been directed to establish a Green Zone initiative through multiple Council-approved actions including the Climate Action Plan in 2013, the Minneapolis Energy Pathways Study in 2014, and the Sustainability Office's two-year work plan priorities in 2014. Council Members Gordon, Cano and A. Johnson are co-authoring a Resolution to create a Green Zone Policy Task Force that will be charged with developing the definition and vision of the Green Zone Policy; determining screening criteria for Green Zones; and deciding what programs and resources will be provided to Green Zones. The Task Force is proposed to be 17 members, including eight community representatives, one Mayoral representative, two City Council representatives, and six City staff. The Sustainability Office will facilitate the meetings, but will not be represented on the Task Force. At this point, the Request for Council Action and Resolution is anticipated to go to Health Environment and Community Engagement Committee on October 26, Community Development & Regulatory Services committee on October 27, and Council on November 6. The Task Force would be recruited through the end of 2015, appointed in early January 2016, and then report back to City Council on a recommended Green Zone Policy in Quarter 4, 2016.

Following the presentation, CEAC asked for more specifics on the composition of the Task Force and what the Green Zone Policy would include. The CEAC Overburdened Communities work group will review the Resolution language, which will be sent to CEAC by Council Member Gordon, and send any proposed changes to Council Member Gordon to all of CEAC to an online vote by Thursday, October 15.

~~3) Public Utilities Commission E Docket 101 (Slotterback)~~

3) Approval of October Agenda and September Meeting Minutes

At 4:30PM there was a quorum and the October Agenda (with modifications) and September Meeting Minutes were approved.

4) Getting to know fellow CEAC members

Three CEAC members spoke about their passions, why they chose to be part of CEAC, and what they think CEAC could do to assist them. Roxxanne Obrien spoke first, followed by Dylan Bradford Kesti and Tony Hainault. Following their brief personal introductions, CEAC engaged in a dialogue about finding common areas of interest in which to be most effective and how to move the needle on equity in environmental work.

5) Working Group Updates

The “Getting to Know Fellow CEAC members” discussion took the remainder of the meeting time. There were no Working Group Updates.

6) City Staff and Member Announcements

Staff Announcements

- CEAC 2016 Vacancies: Mayor Citizen Rep and City Council Env Advocacy Group. Oct 22
- Saturday Oct 10 free Minneapolis Energy Fair 9:30-12:30 Convention Center
- 2015: Home Energy Squad buy downs for income qualified residents and zero interest loans
- CERT’s SEED Grants for Renewable Energy projects
<http://www.cleanenergyresourceteams.org/rfp>
- Volunteers to examine CEAC bylaws and recommend revisions?

Member Announcements

- Moos Family Speaker Series on Water Resources: Protecting Surface Waters in Agricultural Watersheds on Nov 3 & 4, see <http://freshwater.org/moos-family-lecture-series/>
- Save the Date: 2016 State of Water Conference – April 14-15, 2016
- Master Water Stewards are now metro-wide (<http://masterwaterstewards.org/>)

7) Meeting Adjourned

Meeting was adjourned at 5:35PM.

Follow up: Results of online voting conducted after the meeting re: letter to Council Members Gordon, A Johnson and Cano on Green Zones recommendations. Voting in favor were: Anna Abruzzese, Dylan Kesti, Roxanne OBrien, Michelle Stockness, Eduardo Cardenas, Lisa Daniels, James Nash, Jen Kader, Brian Ross, Alejandro Ojeda and Allan Campbell. Anna Abruzzese emailed letter on October 15.