

Environment & Energy Commission

City of Columbia & Boone County

Daniel Boone Building, Third Floor Conference Room

Minutes of Tuesday, July 28, 2009

Present: Barbara Buffaloe, Alyce Turner, Dick Parker, Tom O'Connor, Jean Sax, Bob Walters, Dan Goldstein, Dillon Wyatt, David Brodsky, Lawrence Lile

Absent: Michael Merkle

Guests: Kraig Kahler, Water and Light Director; Tina Worley, Utility Services Supervisor; Barbara Hoppe, City Council; Kay Hunvald, League of Women

City Support Staff: Stephanie Brown

AGENDA

The agenda was approved with changes.

MINUTES

The July 28, 2009 minutes were approved as modified.

REVIEW OF THE SUSTAINABILITY MANAGER JOB DESCRIPTION

Tina Worley of Water and Light gave a review of the proposed Sustainability Director's position and the City had requested comments from the EEC. She said some of the responsibilities may include monitoring of energy efficiency practices, taking inventory of the all city buildings, overseeing the energy assessments of all buildings, creating energy star assessments, reviewing the operations of all city departments and fleet systems, and implementing improvements. She said the priorities will be set by a designated committee. Dick Parker felt that a quantitative annual report of greenhouse gases and other energy issues should be included in the responsibilities of that position. Several commissioners asked what the manager will have the authority to do. Ms. Worley suggested that monthly meetings with all city departments may be held with this manager. She said this person will not be responsible for the actual implementation of the assessments.

Comments provided by the commissioners:

1. Would like a broader policy with division heads managing the city buildings
2. Should be involved in the planning process
3. Strong commitment to sustainability
4. Should have the power and authority to make decisions and changes
5. City operations and buildings should be the position's focus
6. Should involve city outreach
7. The findings should not jeopardize the security of the job
8. Need a clear description that includes a quantitative annual report.
9. Cross training in other communities

10. Priorities clearly expressed
11. Should have input on ordinances and resolutions

Ms. Worley said that stimulus funds will fund the position and then money from the energy savings.

DISCUSSION WITH PJ WILSON, RENEW MISSOURI

PJ Wilson and Erin Noble from Missouri Coalition for the Environment spoke about working with and reviewing the building codes. Mr. Wilson said Columbia is at the forefront in energy efficiency. He said there are programs to help cities measure compliance statewide codes.

A building codes subcommittee was formed that consisted of Mr. Lile, Ms. Buffaloe, Mr. Goldstein, Ms. Turner, Mr. Parker, and possibly Mr. Wyatt.

WATER ISSUES

Mr. O'Connor made some edits to the letter. Ms. Sax motioned to approve and send the letter and Mr. Goldstein seconded the motion. Mr. Kahler said the Trihalomethane report showed that the formation potential is the same at all locations. He said the chloramines process will begin August 11. He said no locations for the three new budgeted wells have been chosen. Mr. Goldstein motioned to include presenting water information in a council work session. Mr. Wyatt made a second motion. The motion was approved.

RECYCLING

Ms. Turner said there is a large need for more recycling containers around the city. She said there were no containers on bike trails. A recycling subcommittee was formed consisting of Mr. Parker, Ms. Turner, and Mr. Goldstein. Ms. Brown said Steve Hunt from Public Works offered to send a City representative to speak with the EEC.

PLANNING TOPICS FOR THE NEXT YEAR

Ms. Buffaloe said she would like to have the planning topics to present to Council and to create a constant working document. It may be possibly to place it on the website.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Buffaloe said she may not be present at the October meeting. She moved to reschedule the September meeting to the 15th and Mr. Wyatt made a second motion. The motion was approved. Mr. Goldstein will lead the October meeting.

Mr. O'Connor and Ms. Sax will review urban forestry. Mr. Goldstein will send out information on land disturbance.

UPCOMING MEETING ITEMS

- Land Disturbance
- Sustainability Director Position
- Recycling

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Prepared by: Stephanie Brown, City Support Staff