

Environment & Energy Commission

City of Columbia & Boone County

Daniel Boone Building, Third Floor Conference Room

Minutes of Tuesday 27 March 2007

Present: Deken, Hunter, Lenhardt, Cunningham, Sax, Turner, Brodsky

Absent: Miles, Skala, Walters

City Staff Liaison: Brown

1. The meeting opened with guest speaker Win Colwill. She had met with the mayor on the subject of global warming and what the City is doing to comply with the recently passed resolution on the endorsement of the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. She also met with the City Manager regarding this subject. She wanted to know what entity within the City would be handling the implementing of this resolution. Colwill provided three handouts: a copy of the resolution endorsing the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, "Climate Protection Actions-U.S. Cities", and "Status Update on Climate Protection Planning" memo. Ms. Colwill mentioned the new intern, Sam Clemens, Water and Light has hired to perform climate inventory. Deken asked what exactly was Colwill asking. Colwill said she would like to see the mayor make a statement and work with other mayors on the subject of climate protection. She would like to see a steering committee established for this subject. Colwill expressed that she would like to get help from the EEC to carry out the resolution. Cunningham mentioned that there is a population that does not believe greenhouse gases exist and suggested watching the way this issue is worded. Turner suggested more education for the Council and community on these subjects. Deken mentioned that the Council has not asked the EEC to do anything. Colwill mentioned Monta Welch of the Climate Coalition, and that on April 14, 2007 there will be a demonstration at the Courthouse for environment issues.
2. Deken called to approve the agenda with changes.
3. The minutes from February 27, 2007 were approved without modifications.
4. Cunningham gave a report on the process of the Visioning meetings. He said that there has been some discussion on including the issue of global warming. The next Visioning meeting is April 4, 2007. Cunningham said that the groups will present their goals. Turner said the public will decide to accept the goals.
5. Deken suggested that the EEC draft a letter to be sent to Council requesting feedback on what measures have been taken to adhere to the resolution on the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. Deken moved to draft a letter to Council and Sax seconded. Deken said she would draft the letter and send it to Brown.
6. Deken commented on the Sandy Springs Tree Ordinance and pointed out some areas to the EEC that would be pertinent. She asked how could those points be incorporated into the City of Columbia's tree ordinance. She also mentioned that there are repercussions to not adhering to the ordinance in Sandy Springs.

7. Deken talked about next month's possible speakers. She mentioned that Mary Kroeing, a master gardener would be there or she would send a representative. Bart Piotter who owns a landscaping supply company could possibly be a speaker. He knows what supplies are available and the costs.
8. The Earth Day Festival was discussed. Deken said Water and Light would supply a table and that they would be located at booth G12. Many suggestions for display options were given. Deken said she would put together a list of the commissioners and the meeting time. It was also decided that there would be a suggestion box. Deken asked the commissioners to send her a list of any expenses incurred so she could create a budget for future use that could possibly be written into the bylaws.
9. Deken informally announced that she would be resigning from the EEC due to her relocating to another city.
10. Cunningham gave an announcement about the Advancing Renewables in the Midwest Conference on March 28, 2007.
11. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Prepared by: Stephanie Brown, City Staff Liaison