

# Minneapolis Community Environmental Advisory Commission Meeting

Thursday June 11, 2016 4:00-6:00pm

Minneapolis City Hall Room 132

## Meeting Minutes

**Attendees:** Allan Campbell, Darrell Gerber, Roxxanne O'Brien, Jen Kader, Michelle Stockness, Tony Hainault, James Nash, Alejandro Ojeda Saint Martin, Lisa Daniels

**Absent:** Ricardo McCurley, Andrew Murray, Anna Abruzzese, Dylan Bradford-Kesti, Meleah Houseknecht, Adam Arvidson, Jenna Grove

**Guests:** Nico Cantaro, Liz Stout, Lois Eberhart, Sherry Barsch – Bloomington Sustainability Task Force, Brendon Jordan (GPI – Drive Electric MN), Mike Luke

**Staff:** Siri Simons, Gayle Prest, Kelly Muellman

**4:10 Meeting called to order and welcome/introductions** No quorum.

### **4:15 Breakout on 2016 CEAC Activities**

#### ***Breakout #1 4:15-5:00 Climate Action Planning: Electric Vehicles***

Breakout: Allan, Tony, Gayle, Brendon, Kelly, Sherry, Roxxanne

Tony Hainault provided an update on the working group's work plan which identified 3-4 items to work on; one was EV. The working group's goal is to identify a short list of things the City could do to facilitate EV in the region. Today's goal is to get a better foundation of the status of EV and what's on the horizon.

Brendon Jordan from Great Plains Institute and Drive Electric Minnesota gave an overview of Drive Electric MN coalition and status of EV technology and markets today, including battery life, efficiency, incentives, cleanliness of electric sources and how Minnesota compares to other states like California.

Some ideas for where Minneapolis can take initiative included:

- Incentivizing charging stations or charging readiness in residential units, especially multifamily, and workplace settings, also separate metering for vehicle charging (take advantage of Xcel Energy's electric vehicle rate plan)
- Buying electric vehicles for the City's fleet
- Influence other regulated markets, such as Car2Go, through incentives or requirements to go all electric.
- Strategic public charging stations (along major highways, superchargers, at gas stations)
- Public Transit opportunities: Metro Transit is interested in electric buses.

A couple challenges also arose, including that there are two types of charging stations and no market standard, as well as potential electrical grid issues for the fast charging stations that need higher voltage.

### ***Pool Party***

Breakout: Jen, Darrel, Michelle, Nico, Liz

The group discussed opportunities that CEAC members see for improving the City of Minneapolis Stormwater Management Program. The primary opportunity the group identified was to improve the outreach process for the plan. Pool party group members would like to see a more active engagement process, meaning engaging residents through more than the City website and 311. This could occur through a partnership between Public Works and the Master Water Stewards that utilizes the Stewards to conduct formal and informal educational efforts on stormwater issues for residents. CEAC members offered their assistance working with Public Works to compile and develop educational modules so the Stewards have consistent information to provide. Module topics could include storm water drains, salt application, pet waste, and leaf raking.

The group clarified their comment on SMP 6.6. They would like a map to be added of existing and new stormwater management sites within capital projects in the annual report starting next year.

## **Breakout #2 5:00-5:45**

### **Overburdened Communities**

Breakout: Tony, Allan, Alejandro, Roxxanne, James, Lisa

The group took up the conversation from the last meeting, regarding funding community engagement for the Green Zones initiative. Since that meeting, Ricardo, Allan and Kelly met to discuss a concept for engagement for the Headwaters Community Innovation grant opportunity, due on June 15. Whittier Alliance (Ricardo) would be the fiscal sponsor and administer the funding to community-based organizations to organize and host four engagement events in the fall. During this breakout, the working group raised some concerns and ideas about the proposal, including:

- Timing – will this inform the initiative at the right time?
- Are communities over-engaged? Will this advance action?
- Do we need more community engagement? Community needs to lead the initiative.
- Organizations to advertise the RFP to: Juxtaposition? Kristen. CEED? NOC?

There was no objection to moving forward with the application. Working group members were asked to send final comments to Ricardo by Tuesday, June 14.

### **Comprehensive Plan Breakout**

Breakout: Jen, Darrel, Michelle, Nico, Liz

Darrel and Jen shared an update from the Comprehensive Plan's Environmental Systems Working Group meetings they have attended. They shared that the meetings they have attended have covered 1) the public outreach and communications plan being led by CPED staffer Beth Elliot, as well as 2) developing "buckets" to describe topic areas the group will cover, which include air, water, waste, soil and land use, and energy. Right now, the group is working to determine what they know about each of the topics and what they want to know.

Darrel or Jen will forward the most recent Environmental Systems work group minutes to CEAC members as soon as they receive them. This email will include questions seeking input on the following questions related to the buckets: 1) "What are your concerns?" 2) "What does success look like?" and 3) "What are some opportunities we could take advantage of related to these issues?"

## **5:52 Approval of June Agenda and May Meeting Minutes**

Moved by Tony; seconded by Michelle/Allan. Motion passed unanimously.

## **5:53 City Staff and Member Announcements**

- Guest Announcement: Shingle Creek Watershed Management Organization – Opening for a Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner for Minneapolis; must live in Minneapolis but necessarily within that drainage area (North Minneapolis).
- Green Zones: Workgroup just had an unconscious bias training; will have EJ training; then working on developing vision, selection criteria and strategies. Workgroup is developing a community engagement plan. City and CEAC are applying for funds to support community engagement.
- Clean Energy Partnership First Annual Report Released: established a baseline. Was a huge lift. Now need to dive into the data to get at the nuance and story.
- Minneapolis Commercial Energy Benchmarking ordinance was selected as a finalist for the Environmental Initiative awards. The winner was the Rose affordable housing development in Minneapolis.
- Minneapolis chosen as a Rockefeller Foundation's 100 Resilient Cities – award includes a climate resilience officer for two years.,
- Minneapolis adopted a Complete Streets Policy <http://www.planetizen.com/node/86634/minneapolis-puts-pedestrians-first-adopting-new-complete-streets-policy>
  - CEAC will create supplemental document to incorporate natural landscaping into Complete Streets
- Northern Metals court case public comment period goes through June 20.  
See <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/Northen%20Metals%20PN.pdf>
- Northern Spark: Saturday night: Theme is climate chaos.
- WEI CSA shares are still available. Funding supports environmental justice and the farm. (Contact Jen Kader)

- Next meeting will be July 14. Possible items include:
  - Zero Waste update. (Meleah Houseknecht and Robin Garwood)

**6:08** Jen Kader moved to adjourn the meeting, Tony Hainault seconded. Meeting Adjourned at 6:08pm.