

Minneapolis Community Environmental Advisory Commission Meeting

Wednesday April 5, 4:00-6:00pm

Minneapolis City Hall Room M301 on M Floor

Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Thomas Olsen, Andrew Murray, Erin Niehoff, Darrell Gerber, James Nash, Mohamed Yakub, Isaac Russell- Hart, Tony Hainault, Jennifer Kruse, Jon Stenseth, Michelle Stockness, Lisa Daniels, Ellen Kennedy,

Absent: Allan Campbell, Ricardo McCurley, Jenna Grove

Guests/Staff: Gayle Prest, Brady Steigauf, Kelly Muellman, Luke Hollenkamp, Jukka Kukkonen, Kellie Kish, Laura Horner, Halston Sleets, Charles Reed, Kim Havey, Jen Kader, Michael Luke

1) Introductions and approval of Agenda and March Meeting Minutes

Brady Steigauf passed out informed consent forms regarding filming and photography, and requested that members disclose whether they did not wish to be captured.

Andrew Murray initiated a vote to approve the agenda and March meeting minutes, seconded by Thomas Olson, passed at 4:12 pm.

Halston Sleets—Mayor Hodges' new Sustainability and Environmental Justice Policy Aide introduced herself to the Community Environmental Advisory Commission (CEAC). Halston's background includes working at Hennepin County with CEAC member Tony Hainault, and has been very involved in environmental justice work. She is finishing her master's degree in the Science, Technology, and Environmental Policy (STEP) at the University of Minnesota Humphrey School. Halston is also involved with the planning process for the National EJ Public Comment and Meeting hosted in Minneapolis April 25 and 26.

Ellen Kennedy, CEAC's new Minneapolis Parks and Rec Board (MPRB) representative introduced herself to CEAC. Ellen recently moved from Denver, Co., and will be working on the MPRB's Ecological Systems Plan. Ellen is excited about her new role on CEAC, and hopes to learn more about sustainability- and environmental-themed work happening in the City.

2) Comprehensive Plan update

CEAC has been engaging with the "Environmental Systems" section of the Minneapolis Comprehensive Plan. As there will be no more in-person meetings regarding recommendations, additional feedback will be provided by email. An email will be sent out to CEAC members requesting comments and further recommendations to include in the 2040 Comprehensive Plan. Minneapolis Comprehensive Plan website: <https://www.minneapolis2040.com/>

3) CEAC Annual Report/Powerpoint to HECE

On Monday, April 17th or May 1st at 1:30pm, CEAC will present their annual update presentation to City Council's Health, Environment and Community Engagement (HECE) committee in the City Council Chambers. CEAC members discussed the draft and were invited to provide comments and feedback as necessary.

4) Member Deep Dive: James Nash – Xcel Energy Downtown Reliability

James explained his work at Xcel Energy, with particular focus on the nuances of working with large energy customers in the downtown core. Additionally, James discussed the necessity to

provide reliable power to the downtown area for health and safety, and described the backup substations and underground transmission lines unique to downtown.

Thomas Olson volunteered for the Member Deep Dive for the May meeting.

5) Working Group Breakouts

4:45-5:15 Energy and Water work groups met. Jukka Kukkonen, founder of local electric vehicle consulting firm Plug-in Connect met with the Energy work group to discuss best strategies for CEAC to promote electric vehicles in the City.

5:15-5:45 Waste and Overburdened Communities work groups met. Kellie Kish and Laura Horner from the City's Solid Waste and Recycling Division of Public Works made a guest appearance to discuss with the Waste group.

6) Announcements, Next Meeting Wed April 5 4:00 -6:00 City Hall Room M315

- May– Clean Energy Partnership Jamez Staples invited
- Thomas Olson volunteered for the member Deep Dive at May Meeting
- Green Zones HECE April 17 Presentation
- Earth Day Clean up and Run Saturday April 22
https://www.minneapolisparcs.org/activities_events/events/earth_day_cleanup/
- National EJ Public Comment and Meeting April 25 and 26 in Mpls
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/national-environmental-justice-advisory-council-nejac-public-meeting-registration-32498558062>

Tony Hainault moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Thomas Olson, passed at 6:07pm.

City Council's Health Energy and Community Engagement Committee (typically meets 1:30)

Quorum: 9 (19 members but there are two vacancies in 2017 – Public Schools appointee, and residential rep)

<http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/sustainability/teams/ceac-meetings>