

Minneapolis Community Environmental Advisory Commission Meeting

Wednesday March 7, 4:00-6:00pm

Minneapolis City Hall Room 132

CEAC members present: Allan Campbell, Bobbie Erichsen, Erin Niehoff, Forest Theisen, James Nash, Jennifer Kruse, Jon Stenseth, Lisa Daniels, Thomas Olsen, Tony Hainaut

Staff: Kelly Muellman, Luke Hollenkamp, Izzy Ballet, Robin Garwood, Karlee Weinmann

Guests: Matt Kazinka, Brady Steigauf, Britta Pearson, Mariama Hefte, Isaiah Bischoff, Jordan Kaplan, Ethan Feldman, Michelle Shaw, Mike Luke

CEAC members unable to attend: Andrew Murray, Darrell Gerber, Ellen Kennedy, Jenna Grove, Michelle Stockness, Mohamed Yakub

4:10 Introductions

4:15 Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board's draft Garden Policy

- Tamara Downs Schwei, Local Food Policy Coordinator for the City of Minneapolis, shared that the Minneapolis Park Board has opened up the Community Garden Policy for public comments through April 9th. This policy outlines the rules, requirements and processes for community gardening at neighborhood parks in Minneapolis. CEAC is invited to comment on the policy.
- The Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council will be submitting a letter to the Park Board in support of the Community Garden Policy. CEAC is invited by the Food Council to also weigh in on this policy and attend the next Food Council meeting on March 14th, 2018 from 5:30-7:30pm at the Minneapolis Public Schools Culinary and Wellness Center (Classroom A)

4:20 100% Renewable Electricity resolution (Robin Garwood)

- Robin Garwood from Council Member Cam Gordon's office gave an update on the 100% Renewable Electricity resolution. The Resolution include three main sections 1) Goal to get to 100% renewable electricity for municipal operations; 2) community-wide goal for 100% renewable electricity and an implementation plan by first quarter 2019; and 3) affirming position towards federal government action.
- The resolution will be presented to the PECE committee on March 26th
- CEAC is invited to give comments on the resolution before it goes in front of City Council. After looking through the resolution CEAC's Climate and Energy work group will decide if they want to write a letter in support of the resolution to City Council or voice comments for changes to the resolution.
- iMatter members highlighted a few of their comments that they asked to be incorporated into the resolution, highlighting that the burden or inadequate climate action falls on young people and future generations. They want to push the City to achieve 100% community wide electricity use from renewables form 2025 and not 2030. They would also like to see that 20% of Minneapolis's energy is generated in the City limits. The current draft of the

Resolution does not include these last two comments, and iMatter students asked CEAC to consider them when drafting a letter of comment/recommendation on the Resolution.

4:40 Approval of March Agenda and February Meeting Minutes

- Quorum was met and the agenda/ meeting minutes were adopted

4:45 Confirm 2018 Meeting Schedule

- After the February meeting, CEAC members not present were asked to reflect on the current meeting date and time to determine if the group should look at changing their meeting time. It was decided that CEAC will maintain meeting on the first Wednesday of the month from 4-6pm since it still worked best for the majority of the group.
- The July monthly meeting has been rescheduled to July 11th due to the July 4th holiday.

4:50 iMatter presentation (Britta Pearson and Ethan Feldman)

- iMatter members presented on their goals for Minneapolis climate policy, their recommendations for the 100% renewable energy resolution and requested that high school students be allowed to participate on CEAC
- iMatter members emphasized that they want youth involved in talking about climate change at the municipal level. The high school students proposed to CEAC that 2 seats on CEAC be reserved for youth so that they have a formalized role at the municipal level.
- After listening to the group CEAC made a motion to adopt the proposal from iMatter to allocate two positions for youth on CEAC and to identify the next steps involved in taking the recommendation to City Council.
- CEAC will create a subcommittee to discuss the logistics of this process as well as if qualifications are needed from the students and if their positions could be yearlong appointments vs. two.

5:20 Franchise Fee update (Luke Hollenkamp)

- Luke provided an update on the proposed spending of the 2018 Franchise Fee increased revenue and timeline for going to City Council for approval. It is expected to be brought to PECE on March 26th.
- Luke highlighted that EVAC is writing a letter for the board meeting/ City Council to ask that moving forward the franchise fee budget is closer to the increased revenue of \$2.8 million dollars. CEAC is invited to write a letter to City Council or sign on to the letter that EVAC creates. Matt Kazinka – the EVAC co-chair will send the completed letter to CEAC.
- CEAC members had questions about funding going towards CEE and if they are guaranteed to be getting this funding for their programs then they should be incorporating inclusion and work force development. Luke explained that CEE is contracted out by utilities as a sole-source provider of the Home Energy Squad, but that discussions with the utilities and CEE around work force hiring and inclusion are on the table.

5:50 CEAC Working Groups Updates

- **Energy/Air/Climate Action** – CEAC members met with City Staff about Electric Vehicles. An action plan was created and sent out with next steps. The group is looking for the specific code that they want to update and revise to require EV-ready parking stalls in off-street parking. High level items behind this work are updating the green fleet policy, having inclusive EV language in the Comprehensive Plan, advocating for EV ready parking and looking at current zoning for parking restrictions.

- **Water “Pool Party”** – The group is working on creating comments for the Water Resources Management Plan. Comments are needed by March 12th. The group might need a vote to ask for longer deadline to pose comments on the Plan.
- **Zero Waste** – Currently drafting a letter to send to the Health Department for the green to go ordinance. Thinking about bringing back CEAC letter to City Council around the Bring your bag ordinance.

6:00 Announcements

- The CEAC co-chair (Erin) asked the commission to start thinking about how they can use an equity frame within their working groups. Knowing that the commission has the word community in it yet is not reflecting the diverse communities and environmental burdens that are impacting people of color in Minneapolis. Erin also urged members to participate in the City’s Green Zone initiative.
- CEAC will revisit its group norms and structure and recruitment for CEAC members so that everyone, regardless of their race feels they can participate in the meetings

Meetings and Events

- **Volkswagen Settlement Public Meeting, TONIGHT** at UROC
Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center, 2001 Plymouth Ave. N.,
Minneapolis, Minn.
6:00-7:30PM
- **“The Twin Cities Environment Justice Movement Today”** event TONIGHT at North
Regional library
Part of BCLI (Boards and Commissions Leadership Institute) 2017-2018 Issue Series
1315 Lowry Ave N
5:30-8:00PM
- **Just Solar: A People’s Movement Assembly** at Metro State
Saturday, March 10th
9:30am-3:30pm
Metro State, Great Hall
Register: tinyurl.com/JustSolarPMA
- Discuss **Park Board’s draft Garden Policy** at next Food Council meeting
Wed, March 14
5:30-7:30 pm
Minneapolis Public Schools Culinary & Wellness Center, Classroom A
812 Plymouth Ave North, Minneapolis
(comments accepted through April 9)
- **First Metro Environment Commissions Conference** at United Methodist Church
Saturday April 7th, 2018 | 8:30 am– 12:30pm
Hennepin Ave United Methodist Church
511 Groveland Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55403
Join environment commissioners from Bloomington, Chanhassen, Eden Prairie, Edina,
Ramsey, Roseville, and St. Louis Park. This conference is an opportunity for
commissioners to learn about what other environment-related commissions are doing
and share ideas on helpful resources, successful projects, and environmental topics.
- **Solar Co-op/Bulk-buy Opportunity**, sign up through March
 - Interested in going solar? The Uptown Solar Co-op -- which, despite its name, is open to property owners across the city – is bringing together a group to unlock

bulk purchasing discounts for equipment and installation. Local nonprofit Solar United Neighbors is leading the effort. Solar United Neighbors is an unbiased partner -- the group chooses an installer through an open and competitive bidding process. Each member gets a personalized proposal, tailored to your specific needs, that reflects the discounted group pricing. The Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Association, Whittier Alliance and Environment Minnesota are also partners in this effort. Joining the co-op is free and has no obligation to purchase panels or move forward -- instead it allows you to get more information that'll help you figure out whether this process is right for you. Learn more here: solarunitedneighbors.org/uptown.

6:05 Adjourn

Next Meeting: April 4, 4:00-6:00PM City Hall Room 132

April: Comp Plan policy review, Group norms/bylaws, MPRB Community Garden policy

Future speakers/topics: Green-to-Go cup exemption, Soil Erosion Control ordinance update,

City Council's **P**ublic Health, **E**nvironment, **C**ivil Rights and **C**ommunity **E**ngagement (PECE) Committee (typically meets 1:30PM, every other Monday)

Quorum: 9 (19 members but there are two vacancies – Public Schools appointee, City Council residential rep)

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