

Minneapolis Community Environmental Advisory Commission Meeting

Wednesday July 11, 4:00-6:00 PM
Minneapolis City Hall Room 132

Attendees: Allan Campbell, Bobbie Erichson, Erin Niehoff, James Nash, Jen Kruse, Jon Stenseth, Lisa Daniels, Michelle Shaw, Michelle Stockness, Tom Olsen, Tony Hainault

Guests: Sophia Manolis, Mike Luke

Staff: Kelly Muellman, Luke Hollenkamp

Meeting Notes

1) Lacking quorum, started with announcements.

Announcements

- Kim Havey starting July 23 as City of Minneapolis Sustainability Manager
- City of Minneapolis buying down cost of Home Energy Squad for all residents in the Green Zones and households with income under \$95k; and 0% financing for air sealing and insulation
- Tony attended “blue in the face tour” during the One Water Summit

At 4:21pm quorum was met.

2) Introductions and approval of July Agenda and May and June Meeting Minutes

Introductions of attendees

Allan moved and Michelle Shaw seconded approval of agenda and May and June minutes.
Approved unanimously.

3) Bloomberg American Climate Cities Challenge letter of support

Kelly announced that the City of Minneapolis is applying for the Bloomberg Philanthropies American Climate Cities Challenge. This opportunity would open Minneapolis up to a couple million dollars of support for accelerating climate mitigation activities. The application requests up to three letters of support and the City is hoping that CEAC will sign a letter of support. Lisa moved to approve letter with minor amendments from Allan and Tony and Michelle Stockness seconded. Letter of support was approved unanimously.

4) Review and Approve CEAC Letter on Municipal Service Center Building

Michelle Shaw moved approval of the letter with proposed changes (remove “ground source heat” reference), Tom seconded.

Votes in favor: Erin, Jen Kruse, Lisa, Bobbie, Allan, Michelle Stockness, Jon Stenseth

Abstained – James Nash

Objected – Tony Hainault

Letter approved by majority.

5) Review and Approve CEAC Letter on Comprehensive Plan

Bobbie moved approval of the letter with Sophia/Tony’s proposed edit (add “and institutions” to Policy 75 around waste reduction education) and some additional grammatical edits and formatting, Seconded - Allan

Approved – Erin, Jen Kruse, Lisa, Michelle Shaw, Tom, Michelle Stockness, Jon Stenseth, Tony

Abstained – James Nash

Letter approved by majority.

6) CEAC Enabling Resolution discussion (Erin Niehoff, Chair)

Discussion from past few months moved into review of the CEAC enabling Resolution, specifically the Whereas clauses and Membership composition, including:

- Language on inclusion/representation
- Appointee scenarios, attendance, and term limits

Tom gave an update on meeting with CM Gordon regarding expectations from CEAC (e.g., technical view, community view, what does he value, etc.). Mainly Gordon wants good advice. He doesn't feel strongly about CEAC being either technical or community-focused. CEAC is not expected to have total pulse on technical aspects or on wants of entire population of Minneapolis. More diversity within the group is important. Gordon is open to the idea of more residents. Wants new members to feel comfortable participating. CEAC should be able to bridge the gap between technical content and community interest. He likes the idea of set-aside for Green Zone seat/underrepresented community. Cautions CEAC to keep options open with position (more flexible) to ease filling seats.

Tom hopes to meet with CM Cunningham soon to get his feedback. However, CM Gordon noted that CM Cunningham feels similarly.

Comments on the Whereas clauses:

- iMatter requested to include a Whereas clause recognizing the importance of youth voices in discussions and actions on climate because it is an issue that affects youth the most.
- Rather than calling out Green Zones specifically, include the values/essence of Green Zones as provided by the definition/description in the Comp Plan: "The City prioritizes a place-based approach aimed at improving health and supporting economic development using environmentally conscious efforts in communities that face the cumulative effects of environmental pollution, as well as social, political and economic vulnerability. These efforts toward environmental justice, as well as for cleaner air and water overall, will continue to be a priority for the City."
- Recommendations that CEAC take recommendations from bi-annual Boards and Commission report, and work with existing Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission (NCEC) to take the temperature of neighborhoods rather than doing our own engagement.
- Trying to broaden scope of CEAC membership. Important to start with "inclusive and lead-by community voices".
- Second whereas clause includes "and the communities most impacted"; recommended change to "and the communities and demographics most impacted" to include children
- Recommendation to include "whereas City Council passes resolutions and engages the Sustainability Office in support of these resolutions" in place of the Green Zones whereas
- Questions about whether to include more specific examples of work that CEAC has done ("including Green Zones, Climate Action Plan, Bring Your Own Bag ordinance, etc.) and whether this adds value to the Resolution or makes it immediately outdated.

Comments on Be it resolved clauses...

- Change to "environmental hazards" to environmental effects" (to include potential positive impacts)
- Strike the second sentence in the first paragraph in the clause on duties and membership

Comments on Membership make-up

- A lot of discussion about whether CEAC should stay away from quotas because it creates restrictions; trying to make more open. And recognizing that openness doesn't necessarily lead to the diversity we are looking for. Some proposed options:

- Under resident appointments, could require a certain number from Green Zones
- Have discussion about 2 youth seats. Persons of varying ages isn't specific enough. Push from iMatter for 2 youth seats in membership. Youth can serve as catalyst for change. iMatter could bring recruitment plan to August 1 meeting
- Under Advocacy seats, include at least 1 youth advocate
- What if we set aside 4 seats for "diversity and inclusion"?
- Appointments could follow appointment recommendations from NCR reports. NCR has "City academy" – recruit from there and point people to academy for capacity building
- Consider meeting out in the community to increase guest attendance

7) Adjourn

Next Meeting: August 1, 4:00-6:00PM City Hall Room 132

August: CEAC membership – finalize

September: CEAC enabling resolution updates - vote

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

Quorum: 9 (19 members, including one vacancy – Public Schools appointee)

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