



City of Columbia, Missouri

Meeting Minutes

Climate and Environment Commission

Tuesday, April 26, 2022
6:00 PM

Regular

701 E Broadway
City Council Chambers

I. CALL TO ORDER

Leanne Tippet Mosby called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

Staff: Becca Elder (Sustainability); Eric Hempel (Sustainability); John Simon (Community Development)

Present: 11 - Carolyn Amparan, Erica Ascani, Linda Godwin, Matthew Ludden, Leanne Tippet Mosby, Annette Triplett, Joseph Barnett, Dick Parker, Jacquelyn Sample, Jessica Norris and Emily Gustafson

Absent: 4 - Ryan Kaufmann, Sanjeev Khanna, Abra Spisso and Roni Becherer

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Members, staff, and guests introduced themselves around the room.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda was amended to include Energy report.

The agenda was approved as amended with a motion from Dick Parker and a second from Matthew Ludden. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes were approved with a motion from Carolyn Amparan and a second from Dick Parker. Motion passed unanimously.

TMP-21260 CEC Draft Minutes 3-22-22

Attachments: [2022.03.22 CEC Minutes DRAFT Updated](#)

V. SPECIAL ITEMS

VI. OLD BUSINESS

TMP-21247 Report and discussion of 2021 International Energy Conservation Code review process

Attachments: [2021 Significant Code Changes Presentation](#)

John Simon from Community Development spoke on the Building Construction Code Commission's (BCCC) discussion and process regarding the 2021 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC). The 2021 IECC is reviewed by the BCCC on a subcommittee level first and then reported to the full committee. The BCCC has concerns about adopting the code with the biggest concern being the net zero provision. The net zero component of the code is an appendix that can be used as a template for other

communities and is a stretch code. More resources for community solar are necessary for net zero in Columbia. The subcommittee reviewing the code recommends drafting a more well thought out local provision. The subcommittee is also concerned with ensuring affordability with code changes. Increased exterior insulation and attic insulation increase building costs.

John hopes to present a consensus between the BCCC and CEC to the City Council. John is willing to do a presentation on the code to the CEC.

By August, John would like to have all agreements and amendments to Council and be able to present code updates to stakeholders. The next BCCC meeting is the 4th Monday of May. Code enforcement starts October 1st.

TMP-21221 Rental Energy Efficiency (REE) Report

Carolyn Amparan was able to present Rental Energy Efficiency Report to both the WLAB and Finance Audit and Advisory Committee in the last month. Based upon their feedback, Amparan is suggesting additional changes before it goes to City Council. WLAB was concerned that it be made clear whatever working team the City Council comes up with to progress this understands what their specific responsibilities were and would have the opportunity to say it wasn't the right thing for Columbia. Amparan wrote objectives in a way that hopefully gives that opportunity.

The REE addresses concerns that people may have and specifies issues for the team taking this to the next level to consider. There are many potential grant opportunities for federal funding. The report includes a 45% emissions reduction by 2030 in alignment of the new Climate Assessment Report that the UN published. Clarified report to include "overall" and add in the UN base year.

Both committees Carolyn Amparan spoke to were interested in seeing more specific costs. Costs were added in directly from the Columbia case study report. Amparan also clarified why heat waves are so important for us to be prepared to deal with- because heat waves are the leading cause of weather related death. Added into additional benefits section that landlords could reduce turnover and reduce cost, that some energy efficiency improvements reduce maintenance costs and increase healthy living environments. Details on model communities were added. Additional sources were included.

Members discussed that WLAB and Finance Audit and Advisory Committee may not support this due to potential staffing issues and other concerns, and a desire for more details. Carolyn Amparan will share updates on the REE that have been made with the other commissions to address concerns.

Motion by Carolyn Amparan to accept proposed changes to the Rental Energy Efficiency Report for City Council. Seconded by Jessica Norris. Passed unanimously.

TMP-21222 Sending the REE report to the Housing and Community Development Commission and others.

The Housing Community Development commission may not be able to add this to their agenda due to their work schedule and mandated deadline, but a letter could be sent with the report attached, a request for support or invitation for questions. It may help to be explicit in a desired response in getting back to other commissions.

TMP-21223 Feedback and other suggestions for the CEC to consider

Attachments: [Rental Energy Efficiency Proposal and Report](#)

Discussion included under previous two agenda items.

TMP-21225 Renewable Energy Plan response discussion & approve timeline

Attachments: [Suggestion for CEC comments on 2022 Renewable Energy Plan](#)

Eric Hempel informed the commission that they can make their decision by the June meeting to be in line with the process, and suggested that there are benefits to waiting to decide especially with new members on the CEC.

Carolyn Amparan recapped that the team had previously discussed investing any money that would have been spent on RECs into local RE projects and how this dollar amount can be calculated. Crystal lake 2 contract was used for calculating the \$112k estimate for a solar generation system. Truman solar, the least expensive source, was previously used to calculate the estimate. Other numbers could be used, but Crystal Lake 2 was chosen because is not the most or least expensive.

Eric Hempel explained that the CEC's response will be provided first to the WLAB and then that will go with the REP when it is presented to council.

Dick Parker stated that he expects the WLAB to come up with a dollar figure of their own and make an independent report to council. The City Council will have to address this.

Dick Parker suggested that it would be best to move the response forward to Council now and motions to do so.

Carolyn Amparan seconded because of budget timeline.

Eric Hempel suggested that it may be getting ahead of the process to move the because the Renewable Energy Plan will not have gone to Council for consideration. This gets sent to WLAB and then the WLAB's report or comments on the REP as well as the CEC's comments are presented to Council. This will not be presented to the Council independently and is not scheduled to go to council until July.

Members discussed that approving early would get the response WLAB more quickly, which could give WLAB more time to get back to the CEC and discuss any strong objections.

Leanne Tippet Mosby discussed that within the more informal working team structure, where working teams aren't empowered to make decisions but do research and work for the greater commission's discussion and consideration, it is beneficial for the commission members to have time to deliberate, digest, and ask questions especially when the time is available, such as in this case.

It was clarified that the WLAB does not have the ability to revise the CEC's response, but has to pass it along as is.

Jacquelyn Sample stated concern about preventing collaboration and communication with WLAB if the CEC sends this right to City Council, and suggested that the CEC passes this to WLAB and let them know that the CEC will consider any feedback before sending this to Council.

Emily Gustafson discussed that the CEC wants the shortfall to be transformed into solar investment and that this may not be the best approach. Gustafson suggested that greater specificity may result in more local generation and that a more collaborative approach may be more successful. \$112,000 is a very small amount for solar, so if the CEC further specified goals and if those were more proportional to the amount of money perhaps we could get better buy in from WLAB and the council.

Dick Parker mentioned potential projects of putting solar on fire stations and the City Hall so that the community can see it.

Dick Parker stated that 3 CEC members and 2 WLAB members are meeting to discuss the Renewable Energy Ordinance in its entirety and how the money is spent. There will be more discussion on the Renewable Energy Ordinance.

Motion by Dick Parker to adopt the Renewable Energy Plan response to be forwarded to City Council in the packet along with the Renewable Energy Report and input from the WLAB.

Seconded by Carolyn Amparan.

9 in favor

Two opposed: Emily Gustafson and Leanne Tippet Mosby. Motion carries.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

TMP-21248 Letter of support for GoCoMo Application for Federal grant funds to purchase electric buses

Attachments: [2022 LowNo Letter of Support GoCOMO](#)
[2022 LowNo Letter of Support GoCOMO Final](#)

Eric Hempel explained that this is a letter of support for GoCoMo Application for Federal grant funds to purchase electric buses. Around a year ago, a request was received from transit for a similar letter of support for to buy a low to no emission bus. This letter is similar to the one that was written before. It is for 100% funding for project with no match required.

Document was edited to make clear that the whole CEC supports this.

Motion to approve letter of support for GoCoMo Application as amended: Carolyn Amparan

Secunder: Jessica Norris

One abstention: Emily Gustofson

All others in favor. Motion carries.

TMP-21226 Letter of support for Grissum site redevelopment

Attachments: [DRAFT CEC letter of support RAISE](#)
[FINAL CEC letter of support RAISE.docx](#)

Eric Hempel explained that this is a letter of support through the RAISE grant through DOT to support the larger redevelopment and rehabilitation of the Grissum operations center which houses fleet maintenance, the household hazardous waste pickup, and the electric buses. This is a heavily used facility in need of lots of updates, both operationally and regarding emissions. This grant supports increasing electric bus infrastructure, native/pollinator plants, onsite solar storage, HVAC updates and other building efficiencies.

This letter describes Columbia's commitment and action.

Motion to approve letter of support for Grissum site redevelopment: Carolyn Amparan
Seconded: Joseph Barnett
Passed Unanimously

TMP-21227 CEC Priorities

Attachments: [2022 CEC Priorities Final](#)

Each team should prepare priorities as a part of their report for the May meeting. Hempel will give an update on staff efforts regarding healthy housing mold/mildew efforts at the May meeting.

Leanne Tippet Mosby will email City Council asking for a response/feedback on the three priorities the CEC outlined for the City Council in the annual report.

There are currently efforts to integrate CAAP priorities into the budget. Eric Hempel has time in the budget retreat. There are opportunities to talk to staff at division level and director level about integrating CAAP metrics. There isn't a set schedule but staff are working to coordinate it and make it part of the process.

VIII. DISCUSSION OF ACTION ITEMS OR QUESTIONS FROM REPORTS

TMP-21228 Housing and Buildings

Attachments: [Housing Group April 2022 meeting notes](#)

This team was able to meet with the KC Chief Environmental Officer and took many ideas from their conversation. The KC Chief Environmental Officer wants to learn from Columbia on the rental energy efficiency progress.

TMP-21229 WLAB

Attachments: [Report on the WLAB meeting April 6](#)

Dick Parker recommended that CEC members look up the two documents that are linked in the WLAB report as it is important information.

TMP-21254 Communications

Attachments: [Communications Team notes for April 13, 2022 \(1\)](#)

Earth Day went really well and there was good participation. Former member Nadia Navarette-Tindall brought in lots of native plants. Joe Barnett and Jessica Norris joined in. The tree board had a lot of interest from community. There is overlap and it would make sense to be next to each other again next year.

The library put a list of climate books together and sent it out. At the moderated discussion on Human Element, members discussed wanting moderator to steer conversation more in the direction of local action/solutions. It was a great panel and it would be beneficial to do another event later this year.

The CEC has hired Doug Tallamy to speak. The CEC should start advertising that event soon. The natural resource working group will work to coordinate with Nadia Navarette-Tindall.

TMP-21383 Energy

Carolyn Amparan shared that on May 16th the City Council will be holding a working session at the pre council meeting to discuss the IERMP. There's a great deal of community support for 100 % renewable energy by 2030. There is a press conference on May 2nd at noon in front of City Hall, and the thousands of petition signatures will be turned in at the council meeting on May 2nd. The CEC has been invited to talk on the renewable energy report at the press conference- they would like the CEC to cover the report and why the CEC supports the 100% renewable energy by 2030 at the press event.

TMP-21406 Transportation

Annette Triplett shared that the transportation team had drafted a letter that would be attached to the May meeting agenda and wanted to introduce the topic at the present meeting. The letter is about improving the transit system in Columbia. The team concluded that transit cannot be improved by making one off changes to each issue, so a solution could be creating transit masterplan and task force to establish a long term vision and work backwards for creating core of system and figuring out what is needed over time. This will address mode share goals and emissions reduction goals that are in the CAAP. This would be a short-term task force that would build the path to the vision. Letter drafted to City Council calls for a short-term task force that would build the path to the vision for reducing transportation emissions and achieving mode share goals. The letter includes data that shows that the shift is feasible and explains what the CEC would like the task force to do in creating the strategy. A structure for the task force including staffing and liaisons is recommended. Included a whole page of questions for the task force to answer to develop the long term vision. Recommended that the City Council establish task force by August. This recommendation is in alignment with the letter from City Council to CATSO in support of the CATSO long range transportation plan. This letter calls for the creation of a transit masterplan. This would be a follow up to the Council's own recommendation to create a task force to develop a long term plan.

IX. STAFF REPORTS

Eric Hempel gave the staff report. There is an opportunity for providing a framework for the implementation piece in the budget. The budget is trying to reflect priorities in other plans as well, such as the strategic plan which overlaps some with the CAAP. Eric is looking forward to making progress. We will be able to reflect CAAP priorities in this.

Eric Hempel is attending the Advancing Renewables conference, and suggested that the CEC consider using their budget for CEC members to attend next year's Renewables Conference.

Hempel has made a list of energy code review research questions for himself, plans to present at next month's meeting breaking down the code changes and some of the energy and cost implications of the code.

Potential agenda items Hempel heard throughout this meeting: presentation from legal on how working groups can be effective, transit task force next month, working teams priorities, and an update on the mold and mildew health and safety CAAP action. Someone from Healthy Housing team may be interested in making a presentation. Feel free to send questions/issues via email about next month's meeting by May 12th.

CHAIR REPORT

Leanne Tippet Mosby asked for continued support with still adjusting to the chair position and to use the correct email for her.

X. GENERAL COMMENTS BY PUBLIC, MEMBERS AND STAFF

Carolyn Amparan was speaking on behalf of another organization offering for CEC members to sign the 100% renewable energy by 2030 petition that currently had around 2500 signatures.

Dick Parker shared that tornadoes are moving east and north which means an increase in tornadoes in Columbia.

Annette Tripplett announced that Local Motion is hosting bike walk and wheel week May 8th through 14th. One event every day encouraging walking, biking, or riding the bus. More information can be found on their website.

Annette Tripplett offered constructive criticism to the commission that agenda items need to be moved through more quickly and the CEC can collectively do a better job of staying on task as over 30 minutes were spent on one agenda item. Without an end time, the meetings can extend into the void, limiting productive thoughts and discussion. Annette suggested adding an end time to meetings to keep the commission on track and increase productivity and participation.

Leanne Tippet Mosby suggested that the CEC develop written down process rules for when to get agenda items in by and how the CEC has discussions and makes decisions. The commission is also only required to meet quarterly, so that is something for the commission to consider as well.

Jaquelyn Sample motioned to add time estimates to each agenda item and discuss an estimated end time at the May meeting
Seconded by Matthew Ludden
Passed unanimously

XI. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is May 24th, 2022 at 6 PM in City Council Chambers.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM.

Dick Parker motioned to adjourn.
Joseph Barnett seconded.
Motion passed unanimously at 8:31 pm.

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