



# City of Columbia, Missouri

## Meeting Minutes

### Climate and Environment Commission

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Tuesday, April 25, 2023  
6:00 PM

Regular

701 E Broadway  
City Council Chambers

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#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Leanne Tippett Mosby called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

**Staff:** Eric Hempel (Sustainability), Becca Elder (Sustainability), Brandon Renaud (Utilities)

**Members of the Public:** Mark Haim, Gregg Coffin, Jim Windsor, Missourian Staff

**Present:** 9 - Linda Godwin, Leanne Tippett Mosby, Annette Triplett, Joseph Barnett, Dick Parker, Jessica Norris, Emily Gustafson, David Adams and David Huhman

**Excused:** 6 - Ryan Kaufmann, Matthew Ludden, Jacquelyn Sample, Abra Spisso, Roni Becherer and Raymond Holland

#### II. INTRODUCTIONS

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

#### III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Motion to approve the agenda:** Dick Parker

**Second:** David Huhman

**All in favor; motion carried.**

#### IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

TMP-24197 March 2023 CEC Meeting Minutes Draft

**Attachments:** [March 2023 CEC Minutes Draft](#)

**Motion to approve the minutes:** Linda Godwin

**Second:** Dick Parker

**Annett Triplett and Joseph Barnett abstained; motion carried.**

#### V. SPECIAL ITEMS

TMP-24181 Electric Rate Structure - Gregg Coffin, Water and Light Advisory Board

**Attachments:** [WLAB Cost of Service Memo](#)

Gregg Coffin spoke to the Climate and Environment Commission about the history of the cost of service and rate study. Topics that Coffin covered included the following: the Water & Light Advisory Board's review process and trainings, the utility's financial needs, the findings of the cost of service and rate study, rate affordability, impacts of COVID, rate classes, the inverted block rate's ability to encourage energy conservation, and causes of cost increases.

Members asked questions about demand, electric vehicles charging, utility assistance programs, residential cost increases, and AMI.

TMP-24218 Alternative Electric Rate Proposal- Jim Windsor

**Attachments:** [Proposal by Dick Parker](#)

Jim Windsor, a member of the community and former City employee, presented his disagreements with the rate design and the findings of the consultant. Windsor discussed disagreements with the assumptions used by the consultant and issues with the base charge. Windsor stated his prediction that the costs would disproportionately be paid by customers who use the least and that the proposed rate would not encourage efficiency. Windsor encouraged the Climate and Environment Commission (CEC) to advocate for the creation of an alternative rate proposal from the consultant's proposal.

Dick Parker handed out a typed recommendation for the CEC to make to City Council, attached as "Proposal by Dick Parker."

Members discussed the suggestion of an alternative proposal, including the lack of information and expertise that the commission has to make recommendations, the importance of rates being monitored for impact on climate and incentivizing energy efficiency, and the timing of the City Council's decision making on the rates.

Leanne Tippet Mosby made a motion that was discussed by the commission. The motion was amended, discussed, and withdrawn.

Jessica Norris made a new motion, then amended that motion. The commission discussed and passed the motion.

**Motion that the CEC recommends to the Water & Light Advisory Board that in their testimony to council that they ensure that the rate structure both energy efficiency and equity, and to send to the City Council: Leanne Tippet Mosby  
Second: Dick Parker  
Motion withdrawn.**

**Motion that the CEC provide a letter to Council and copy the Water & Light Advisory Board urging them to request a summary of the effects of the new rate proposal on climate/rate equity and long term total emissions.**

**Second: Annette Triplett**

**Motion amended to: move that the CEC provide a letter to Council and copy the Water & Light Advisory Board urging them to request a summary of the effects of the new rate proposal on rate affordability for low income residents and/or disparate impacts, and long term total emissions.**

**Second: Annette Triplett**

**All in favor; motion carried.**

## VI. OLD BUSINESS

TMP-24182 Climate and Environment Commission Annual Report

**Attachments:** [CEC annual rep 2022.docx](#)

[Edits on 2022 CEC Priorities Final](#)

[Edits on CEC Priorities 4.26.2023](#)

[NR CAAP Priorities 2023 draft](#)

Members looked over the drafted CEC accomplishments for calendar year 2022. It was suggested that the date that the commission passed items, along with materials sent to City Council be added to the accomplishments list where possible. Eric Hempel stated

that he would clarify the action for the triple bottom line and provided an update for the budget allocation. A typo was corrected.

The commission looked at the priorities updates list and made changes that are outlined in the attachment titled "Edits on CEC Priorities\_4.26.2023" and reviewed the drafted Natural Resources priorities outlined in "NR CAAP Priorities\_2023\_draft."

## VII. NEW BUSINESS

## VIII. TASK UPDATES

Leanne Tippet Mosby stated that the Building Construction Codes Commission/Climate and Environment Commission ad hoc group is meeting May 8th and other members can participate in this discussion about 2021 and 2024 energy codes.

Jessica Norris stated that she will reissue a letter to the Tree Board asking for a collaborative set of priorities, clarifying that Norris is working as a task lead and not part of a working group.

Linda Godwin provided an update that meetings had taken place with staff and other commission members about the dashboard and Sustainability's social media. Commission members can make suggestions for social media topics to Eric Hempel and/or write a blog post and bring it to the commission. Godwin encouraged commission members to sign up for the newsletter.

## IX. STAFF REPORT

Eric Hempel's staff report included the following: The rental energy efficiency project update will be presented at the next City Council meeting as a report; Hempel will be attending the building energy codes conference in Chicago in May; MEEA is hosting an energy efficiency commercial training in May at the Daniel Boone Regional Library; and there will be Show Me the Heat community stakeholder meeting in late May organized by Community Resilience Organizer and Community Conservationist.

## X. CHAIR REPORT

Leanne Tippet Mosby thanked CEC members for coming to the Earth Day event and suggested having Earth Day as a task that the commission starts earlier next year.

## XI. GENERAL COMMENTS BY PUBLIC, MEMBERS AND STAFF

## XII. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting will be May 23rd, 2023 at 6 PM in City Council Chambers.

## XIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 PM.

**Motion to adjourn: Jessica Norris**  
**Second: Leanne Tippet Mosby**  
**All in favor; motion carried.**

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