



City of Helena

Citizen Conservation Board

Regular Board Meeting; August 14, 2019; 6:00 PM
City-County Building Room 326

Board Members Present: Hannah Cail, Lisa Fairman, Erin Grossman, Diana Hammer, Sarah Norcott, Greg Ross, Denise Roth Barber, Morgan Shimkus, Valerie Stacey

Others Present: City Staff; Troy Sampson, Bridget Johnston

Call to Order: Hannah Cail called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

Meeting Minutes: Denise Roth Barber moved to approve the minutes, Sarah Norcott seconded, motion passed.

Updates from City Staff:

- a) LED conversion: Troy Sampson reported that the streetlight conversion project from Northwestern Energy is on hold until they can come up with a plan that will meet City ordinance. Denise said that the Helena Citizen's Council is recommending the City change its ordinance to not allow lights brighter than 2700K.

ACTION ITEM: Add LED discussion to September's agenda.

- b) Sustainability Coordinator: Troy Sampson reported that the position was approved as a 1/2 time employee; the county is not joining the City and is doing their own thing. The process to hire the position is in the works.

Sub-Committee Updates: Waste; Denise worked on the growth policy input. Water; Diana deferred her report to save time. Energy; Sarah sent Patrick the information he requested.

Sun Run Letter: Morgan suggested removing the word wonderful from the first sentence. Sarah Norcott motioned to approve [letter](#) with the removal of wonderful; Morgan Shimkus seconded; motion passed.

ACTION ITEM: Brian to make edit to the letter and send to Hannah to send to Commission.

Growth Policy-Zero Waste: Lisa Fairman reported that the waste and water committees met and worked on draft language. A [draft letter](#) and [Growth Policy Update recommended edits](#) were provided. Lisa proposed the board advocate the Growth Policy's focus be on climate change issues. Diana recommends to place goals from the 2009 climate change action plan into the 2019 growth policy. It was also recommended to expand from City government use to community wide use. It was pointed out that target dates still need to be set. Denise said that the 20th of August is the deadline for comments. Valerie stated the 2009 climate change action plan is listed as an appendix to the 2019 growth policy but thought it was important to acknowledge in the letter that these items are important enough to be in the growth policy, not just as appendices. Denise pointed out language the board had not yet seen on the last page of the handout. Denise Roth Barber motioned to give power to Lisa Fairman to make grammatical corrections to the letter but keep the spirit of the letter the same, and then send to Community Development as the board's input for the growth plan. Diana Hammer seconded; motion passed. Denise encouraged members to also share the letter with 10 people and ask them to

support it by sending emails to the Commission. Lisa requested that any edit suggestions be sent to her by Sunday morning.

ACTION ITEMS: Lisa to make edits to the letter and submit to Community Development.

Sarah Norcott left meeting.

Climate Change and Resilience Gathering: Diana reported that with their small grant they hired a facilitator. They had a meeting on July 23 and came up with themes about resiliency for Helena and ways to create a resilient community. They are setting up Facebook and Instagram pages named “Resilient Helena”.

Building Codes: Reminder that listening sessions are coming up to gather stakeholder input. The Helena session is August 26, the other dates are on the [board's webpage](#).

Setting the Agenda/Sharing Information: Hannah explained that she tries to get the agenda to Bridget by the 1st Monday the week before the meeting so that it can be shared and listed publicly by the required time. She also stated the board has a tendency to share via email and that discussions of the board need to be public so we need to refrain from doing that. Denise requested that the chair send an email to the board requesting agenda items which Hannah stated she will do. Bridget explained that Hannah creates the agenda and whether an item is on the agenda should be a discussion between the person requesting it and the chair. It should be finalized by the time it is sent to staff for posting and disbursement. The agenda needs to be final and posted 48 hours prior to the meeting along with supplemental material.

Diana Hammer left meeting.

New Chair: Hannah stated that she has started a new job and will not have time to continue her role as chair of the board. She asked if anyone is interested. Lisa Fairman said she would be interested. Troy and Greg looked up the procedure in the bylaws and it was determined that the board would vote on a new chair at the next meeting.

New Business: Morgan said she thought the board should start thinking ahead to items that they may want to look at that would impact the City budget.

ACTION ITEM: Add budget items to October agenda.

Public Comment: none

Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 7:27pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bridget Johnston, City staff