

Citizen Conservation Board (CCB)

DRAFT Regular Board Meeting Minutes

August 12, 2021; 4:30 PM

Hybrid Meeting held in City-County Building Room 326 and virtually via Zoom

Board Members Present (8 out of 14 members required for a quorum):

- 1) Diana Hammer, Chair
- 2) Mark Juedeman, Vice Chair
- 3) Valerie Stacey, Vice Chair
- 4) Brian Solan
- 5) Becca Boslough
- 6) Denise Roth Barber
- 7) Elizabeth Grant
- 8) Lucy Lantz
- 9) Makenna Sellers
- 10) Patricia Heiser
- 11) Steven Costle
- 12) Carlin Onstad

Board Members Not Present:

Ann Brodsky (excused)

Dick Sloan

City Staff Present:

Ed Coleman, Environmental Manager, City of Helena

Others Present:

Patrick Judge, Interested Citizen

Gregory Thomas, Interested Citizen

Cora Helm, Interested Citizen

Brooke Jenkinson, Interested Citizen

1. Call to Order:

CCB Chair Diana Hammer called the meeting to order at 4:32 pm and welcomed all participants.

2. Minutes:

Denise Roth Barber moved adoption of the August 12, 2021 minutes with edits. Liz Grant seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

3. Update re: Sustainability Coordinator – Ed Coleman

Interviewed three candidates; hope to have someone hired soon.

4. Review and Discussion re: Draft Recommendation to the City Commission to extend the CCB by January 2023 – Makenna Sellers and Val Stacey

- Add reference to recent IPCC Report
- Consider CCB aspirational goals and accomplishments – how to word?
- Add Tree Planting as a task
- Look at wording of the Resolution – be consistent
- Each Committee to discuss and send comments to Val and Makenna; they will revise
- Expect to review and take action at the September CCB meeting

5. Discussion re: Draft Communications Policy

- Intent: As the CCB considers broadening its outreach (social media, press releases, etc.), policy can help the CCB be clear re: coordinating communications and ensure communications are accurate
- Concern over wording in this draft but overall support for a Communications policy
 - Need to be nimble
 - Policy will help new members; formalize CCB process
 - Focus on media, elected officials (not informal communications)
 - Opportunity to be proactive/prevent potential problems with increased communications (e.g. Fb, OpEd, presentations)
 - Add language re: when representing the CCB, as Board members we state the CCB's position (regardless of how we feel personally)
 - Add language re: When expressing an opinion publicly (on a topic relevant to the CCB), be clear it is a personal opinion and does not necessarily the views of the CCB
 - Add language re: Email to the entire CCB is for informational purposes only – we should not be discussing issues via email
- Send additional thoughts to Brian; He and the Communications Committee will revise the draft policy for discussion at the next meeting

6. Administrative

- Meeting day/time – 2nd Thursday of the month from 4:30-6 pm seems to still work for everyone; if not please let Diana, Mark or Val know
- Attendance – expectation is that CCB members attend the monthly meetings. Need a quorum to hold meeting and to be respectful of others' time, if you cannot attend, let the Chair or one of the Vice Chairs know. There are many ways to meaningfully participate in addition to attending the monthly CCB meetings.

7. Committee Reports

- **Communications** – Diana mentioned that the CCB has reserved the display windows in the GoodKind Building for the month of October (South window) and November (6th Avenue); Climate Change theme? Opportunity to emphasize good/better/best individual practices. Lucy and Carlin will ask if Green Groups and Art Clubs might be interested in participating.
- **Water** – Val reported that the WaterWise Booklet is posted on the City's website and is being printed; will distribute. Working on WaterWise Garden Tour (self-guided and virtual); Xeriscape demonstration project with City at Law and Justice Building on Fuller Street – will include informational signage for public education.

- **Waste** – Denise reported that the local Composting Companies are under contract with City to provide composting services and will continue to do so until the Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan is updated (approx.. 2 years from now)
- **Energy & Transportation** – Makenna provided an update re: Solarize, an effort led by the Sleeping Giants Citizen Council with help from the CCB. Conducting 30 solar assessments with a goal of 8-12 installations by the end of 2021. Solar MT is the installer. State solar tax credit ends this year; federal tax credit continues at 26%. Sustainability Coordinator will be running the Solar Revolving Loan Program; Working to get contractor on board to install EV charging stations.
- **Tree Planting Team** – Carlin reported that the Team is working with the City's Urban Forestry Program and Growing Friends to follow-up on the letters sent out to 6th Ward residents, encourage participation. Makenna and Val volunteered to help.

8. Emerging Issues/Other Business:

- Draft an OpEd re: Climate Change and the IPCC Report
– include education and a call to action

9. Announcements: none.

10. Public Comment:

Diana invited anyone on the call, including the public, to share any other comments or questions they might have. There was no public comment.

Next Meeting:

Diana announced that the next regular CCB meeting will take place Thursday, September 9, 2021 at 4:30 pm in person and via Zoom. Speaker will be Matt Culpo, Engineer with the Public Works Department. Kim Carley, City Recycling Coordinator, will be the speaker at the October meeting. Will discuss the revised draft letter recommending the CCB be extended and the draft Communications Policy.

Please contact Diana with any agenda items and let her know if you cannot attend.

Adjourn:

With no further comment from the board, staff, or public, Diana adjourned the meeting at 6:03 pm.

Minutes prepared by Diana Hammer.