

Helena Citizen Conservation Board –
March 9, 2023 FINAL Meeting Minutes

Meeting was held both in person in Room 426 of the City-County Building and via Zoom

1. Roll Call and Welcome (Minute 1:49)

After technical difficulties with Zoom, Diana convened the meeting at 4:45 pm and took Roll call

Board Members Present:

1. Diana Hammer, Chair
2. Mark Juedeman, Vice-Chair
3. Denise Roth Barber, Secretary
4. Lori FitzGerald
5. Devon Malizia
6. Dick Sloan

Board Members Not Present: Jason Selong

Public present: Cora Helm

City staff present: Leea Anderson, Miranda Griffis, Ed Coleman, Jackie Pearson

2. Review and Approval of December 8, 2022 Meeting Minutes - DID NOT HAPPEN

3. Introduction and Overview of the Conservation Board (2018-2022) (Minute 5:30)

4. Committee Priorities – Waste, Water, and Energy

CCB members shared the 2023-2024 work plans of the committees that were discussed at the former CCB's October 2023 meeting. Those work plans were sent to the new CCB in advance of this meeting.

Waste: (Minute 7:35)

Waste reduction goal: 50% reduction by 2040; 35% reduction by 2030

Survey re: City-County Solid Waste management and input for developing the City-County Integrated Solid Waste Master Plan (ISWMP); deadline is April 30.

Open House/Public Meeting on April 11 from 5:30-7:30 pm via Zoom and in City-County Building, Room 426 for additional input into the ISWMP with a 10–15-minute presentation and Q&A with Committee Members

Water: (Minute 34:07)

Water conservation goal: 100 gallons/person/day (annual average)

WaterWise workshops will be held this spring at MT Wild. The first was held March 7: Knowing your Water Use; The next one is scheduled for March 21st: Being WaterWise Indoors; and then the third on April 4th: WaterWise Landscaping.

Energy: (Minute 54:00)

100% Clean Electricity by 2030; 80% by 2025

5. Board Member Introductions (this took place during Roll Call/Welcome)

6. CCB Officers (1:01:55)

Election of officers will be delayed until we have a full board, or at the May meeting, whichever comes first. In the meantime, Diana will chair the meetings

7. Report from the Public Works Department (Minute 1:06:00)

The Commission wants all Advisory Boards to have the same, standardized bylaws. The new bylaws should be available at the next meeting. If an Advisory Board wants to add something to the bylaws, such as committees, they must go to the Commission.

Solar project is advancing quickly. Completion of install is due the end of April.

EV charging station - everything is going well. Install will happen once all permits are done and Is are dotted, Ts are crossed.

In February, the City applied for ~\$3.5 million in grants for education/outreach and infrastructure (composting equipment, cardboard bailer)

The city is also going to also apply for the Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grants (EECBG). Apparently, \$76,250 is set aside for "us" so paperwork just needs to be submitted. The \$\$ would be used to replace the old pipes with stainless steel pipes, which last a lot longer, for the methane boiler at the Wastewater Treatment plant.

PWD will be given a Sustainability presentation at the March 22nd City Admin meeting.

April 1st-30th, the City will be participating in the 2nd annual Mayoral Water challenge.

The City just finished the 'Pines for Perch' Christmas tree recycling program, which resulted in 8.6 tons of discarded trees that will be going into Canyon Ferry.

New recycling drop-off at the old Valley Excavating Gravel pit off of McHugh, and the City is looking for another new location, perhaps off Euclid.

Any updates to the agenda, website, etc. will go through Miranda (no longer Jake)

The CCB page on the City's new website will just have minutes and agenda items for the prior year, nothing more. The goal is for all advisory boards to just have one year's worth of minutes and agendas, because if one Board has a robust page, then another Board would like a robust page, and the City does not want that. If anyone wants additional archived materials, they can contact the City for them.

The City also wants to spotlight businesses or individuals or organizations so we are encouraged to provide suggestions.

8. New Business (Minute 1:25:26) NONE

9. Emerging Issues/Other Business DID NOT HAPPEN

10. Announcements (Minute 1:26:05) NONE

11. Public Testimony (Minute 1:32:40) NONE

12. Action Items from this meeting (Minute 1:32:48)

- PWD will investigate how the figures for water consumption were determined in the 2021 Sustainability report, since the report had seemingly conflicting data - water consumption was down, but the average water use increased by 6 gallons/day.
- PWD will also provide citations for the figures used in that report
- CCB will need to reach out to Danai to schedule its annual presentation to the City Commission
- New members' input regarding what they would like to work on
- Provide input of the Dept Budgets. PWD budget will be in April

13. Agenda for Next Month's Meeting – April 13, 2023

- Review of proposed City FY24 Budget
- Review of the City's standard set of Bylaws that will be distributed to all Boards in April
- Prepare for our annual presentation to the City Commission
- Members to discuss what they want in the minutes, beyond what the City is asking for

14. Adjourn (Minute 1:34:34)