

## **Environmental Management Commission Meeting Minutes – January 10, 2007**

### Attendance

Commissioners Present: Carol Adams, J.C. Alonzo, Faith Brennan, Marty Kraft, John Ware

Commissioners Absent: Bob Berkebile, Shawna Bligh, Jenny Erdman, Stephen Hopkins, Sherry Jackson, Thomas Kimes, Jim Scott, Jim Sheppard, Rachel Treanor, Jim Van Eman

Others present: Dennis Murphey, Jerry Shechter, Sherri Lewis, Katie Grotegutt – Office of Environmental Quality (OEQ); Scott Cahail – Water Services Department; Bruce Wiggins – City Planning & Development; Claus Wawrzinek & Ron McLinden – Sierra Club; Richard Rocha – Bayer Crop Sciences

Meeting convened at 4:10 pm and introductions were made. Minutes of the last meeting were accepted with minor changes. JC Alonzo noted that the EMC needs another 2 – 3 Commissioners and/or people to work on committees. JC noted that OEQ is working on an update to the EMC webpage on the City's website. He also requested that electronic copies of Commission minutes, as approved, be sent to the Commissioners

### **Committee Reports**

Energy – Jim Scott no committee report

LEED Committee – John Ware no committee report

Dennis Murphey reported that BNIM had signed the contract to provide technical assistance for implementation of the City's LEED ordinance and the contract was in the mail to the City for final signatures.

Communications – Sherry Jackson no committee report

Social Justice – Jim Sheppard no committee report

Compliance – (no lead) no committee report

Climate Protection – John Ware requested Dennis Murphey to give an update on the Climate Protection planning process.

The Work Groups will be meeting at Maple Woods Community College on January 16. Presentations will be made on several topics, including carbon sequestration by various types of plants, status of KC Recycles and the City's plans for solid waste program activities, the proposed Zoning Ordinance revision, green infrastructure, the City's alternative fuel program, the status of public transit (including light rail) in the metro area, energy conservation initiatives in City buildings, the City's home weatherization program, and KCP&L's energy conservation programs for residential and commercial customers. Preliminary results of the baseline inventory of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions will be provided to the work group members.

The Work Groups will meet again on February 6 and March 6 to discuss possible Phase 1 GHG reduction measures for recommendation to the Steering Committee on March 15.

The Steering Committee will meet January 19 to discuss GHG reduction goals and discuss the preliminary baseline inventory of GHG emissions (for municipal operations and community-wide).

It was noted that on January 25 NALGEP (the National Association of Local Government Environmental Professionals) is hosting a webcast on climate protection planning by local governments. JC Alonzo requested that a notice re the webcast be sent to all EMC members.

#### Water Committee

Carol Adams reported that the Wet Weather Panel met yesterday and heard a presentation re green solutions. MODoT is supportive of allowing green solutions to storm water to be located on state rights-of-way under their control. The Basin Coordinating Committee meetings are continuing.

Also, Richard Rocha noted that anti-degradation and stream designation rules are under consideration by MDNR & EPA.

Scott Cahail told the EMC that the Water Services Department has an RFQ out for management of approximately \$500 million in water projects funded by bonds.

#### Landscapes – Marty Kraft

Marty reported that Katie Grotegut has provided him some Internet sources of info re carbon sequestration in soils. Faith reported that she will follow up on Tulips on Troost, if there is EMC interest in the project.

#### Office of Environmental Quality Report

- The City has distributed 576 compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) donated from Burns & McDonnell for the Million Lights campaign to homeowners in the Ivanhoe, 49/63, and Washington Wheatley neighborhoods. The City expects to receive an additional contribution of CFLs from Wal-Mart to support the Million Lights campaign.
- The City's 2006 Annual Environmental Report has been prepared and copies were distributed to EMC members.
- Dennis Murphey has taped two programs for Channel 2 re climate protection planning: "From the 29<sup>th</sup> Floor" with Mayor Barnes and Lynn Hinkle, and "Talk of the Town."
- OEQ is working with the City's Communication Office re the City's website to update the EMC webpage, create a new climate protection webpage, and update the OEQ webpage.
- OEQ is working with CIMO and MDNR to resolve stormwater issues associated with discharge of silt and sediment from the construction site of the Shoal Creek Police Academy and Police Station.

### Old Business

An item of discussion carried over from last month's Commission meeting was finalizing a letter that Carol Adams had suggested to be prepared and sent to the Mayor and the Chair of KCATA expressing the Commission's support and interest in being involved early on in the discussions related to implementation of the light rail initiative approved by the KCMO voters in November.

### Other Business

There was discussion re a possible EMC questionnaire for Mayoral & City Council candidates. Concerns were expressed regarding questions from EMC to candidates. It was noted that Sierra Club had sent a questionnaire to the candidates re environmental issues and it would be shared with the EMC.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm. Next meeting is February 14, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. (at the Health Department, if space is available).