



## **Environmental Management Commission**

### **Meeting Minutes – February 12, 2014**

Meeting Location: Mid-America Regional Council

Commissioners present: Carol Adams, Jensen Adams, Bob Berkebile, Tom Brink, Caroline Davies, Elizabeth Fischer, Jim Hansen, Marty Kraft, Ken Kramme, Jack Schrimsher

Staff: Dennis Murphey, Jerry Shechter, Andy Savastino, Matt McKinley – OEQ; Matt Gigliotti – Law Dept; Scott Cahail – Water Services

Guests: Randall Landes - City Finance Director and Scott Huizenga - City Budget Officer; Kellie Case and Penny Hamell – UMKC students; Jim Turner – Sierra Club

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 pm; a quorum was present

- A. Welcome and Introductions - The Chair welcomed commissioners, staff and guests. The Chair noted that a resignation notice had been received from Jason Parson and Elizabeth Fischer leaving two vacancies on the Commission. Interested parties should complete the City's online application form.
- B. Minutes – Bob Berkebile made a motion, seconded by Jim Hansen, to approve the minutes of the meeting of January, 2014 as presented. The motion passed
- C. Citywide Business Plan – Randall Landes facilitated discussion about the 5-year Business Plan noting that Scott Huizenga was responsible for putting the plan together. There was previously no connection between Finance Department and the Budget office. This connection is now in place for a multi-year view. With the newly developed financial indicators software, can now do “what if” strategic planning process across the five years of the plan.
- D. City Budget – Scott Huizenga provided a brief, but detailed, overview of the proposed budget noting that, in reality, there are opportunities for discretionary choices in only about 20% of the total budget. He noted that the City is now making budgeting a year round strategic process based on City Council strategic priorities.
- E. City Council Priorities – Advance KC – The concept of sustainability is included in Sec. B-1-b of the priorities document. Discussion of this document was tabled to the March meeting to give Commissioners a chance to review it. There was discussion about the MARC Envision process. Staff was asked to send a link to the notice.
- F. Sustainable and Beneficial Uses of Vacant Lots Dennis Murphey attended the last task force meeting. He noted that Jeff Williams, Deputy Director of City Planning and Development attended and provided very good input and helped give structure to the process. Robin Martinez plans to make the next meetings working meetings in hopes of providing a report to the EMC after that.
- G. Office of Environmental Quality – Dennis Murphey
  1. Climate Protection Steering Committee will meet Friday, February 21, 2014 at 1:30 pm on the 190<sup>th</sup> Floor of City Hall. A major agenda item will be a presentation by the greenhouse gas inventory update consultants being hired by the City. They will offer an overview of what is anticipated to occur in the inventory update process.
  2. City Energy Project has been publicly announced nationally and has been covered by local news media. The Institute for Market Transformation (IMT) will pay for a position to be housed in OEQ to work with the City to help facilitate the project. MOU's for the project are being executed. An advisory committee has been assembled consisting of about 23 persons representing a range of stakeholders mostly in the private sector. The first advisory committee meeting will be Friday, February 28, 2014 at 1:30 pm at the Kauffman Foundation. The national director of the project and the outreach manager will be in KC tomorrow. As part of

outreach, there will be targeted workshops. This project is anticipated to have a potentially huge impact on achievement of Climate Protection goals because, in KC, buildings represent up to 60% of greenhouse gas emissions.

3. The Missouri Clean Energy District (MCED) for the PACE Program is processing between \$5 million and \$10 million in proposed energy efficiency and/or renewable energy projects in the KC area. The State of Missouri has an allocation of funds for Kansas City for Qualified Energy Conservation Bonds (QECB) that is not being used. Based on conversations with MCED, the City is exploring the assignment of that allocation to MCED to enhance the financing capability and potentially reduce interest rates. The KC allocation is about \$4.6 million.
4. Anti-sustainability legislation has again been introduced in the Missouri legislative process but neither the House or the Senate have yet set hearing dates. City Council has adopted a resolution expressing opposition to the legislation and recommending the Missouri Municipal League take the same action.

H. Liaison Updates –

1. Air Quality Forum – No report
2. LEED – No report
3. Bannister Federal Complex – Carol Adams – The CAP is disbanding and, so, an EMC liaison is no longer needed. Carol Adams has provide the EMC a written summary for the file.

I. Legal Briefing – Matt Gigliotti – EMC Rules of Procedure

- The EMC is required to review the Rules of Procedure annually. The last such review was in 2008.
- The Rules are compliant with current sunshine laws. There are 15 pieces of legislation about the sunshine laws some of which might need to be considered if passed by the Legislature.

J. Old Business – Recognition Committee – Elizabeth Fischer noted that this would be her last meeting as a Commissioner and distributed detailed notes on committee progress. She also noted that someone else who have to step up to facilitate this committee.

K. New Business –

- a. Membership Changes – There are now two vacancies and one Commissioner not attending the meetings. Matt Gigliotti noted that, in the Rules of Procedure, the EMC may request removal of a non-attending member with three consecutive absences.
- b. Vandana Shiva, a renowned and respected Indian environmental activist, global leader in food democracy, and anti-globalization author will be in Kansas City April 17-18,2014 for events co-hosted by UMKC and Cultivate KC.
- c. UMKC is once again offering its Environmental. Sustainability course and Dennis Murphey is one of the featured speakers.
- d. Matt Gigliotti has been working on a project with Missouri Department of Natural Resources to maintain a database regarding pollution issues. There is an interactive map now available on their website. Staff was asked to the link to the site. Andy Savastino and Andy Bracker have been working on this project trying to determine how the City can best use the data.

L. Remarks from Visitors - None

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm

The next monthly meeting is scheduled for

March 12, 2014 at 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm  
Mid-America Regional Council  
600 Broadway – 2<sup>nd</sup> floor - Westview Room