

**Minneapolis Community Environmental Advisory Commission Meeting**  
**Thursday, August 13, 2015 3:30-5:30**  
**401 Main Street SE, (Brian Ross's Party Room)**

**Minutes**

**Attendance:** Allan Campbell, Andrew Murray, Anna Abruzzese, Brian Ross, Darrell Gerber, Jen Kader, Lisa Daniels, Meleah Houseknecht

**Others in Attendance:** Gayle Prest, Kelly Muellman, Ben Knudson (Hennepin County)

**Absences:** Alejandro Ojeda Saint-Martin, James Nash, Adam Arvidson, Dylan Bradford Kesti, Eduardo Cardenas, Michelle Stockness, Roxxanne OBrien, Shalini Gupta, Tony Hainault

**1) Approval of August Agenda and June & July Meeting Minutes.** Meeting called to order by Anna Abruzzese at 3:54 p.m. There was no quorum to approve June & July minutes or August agenda. Anna went forward with the proposed agenda as proposed.

**2) Action codifying email vote regarding Comments to Stormwater Plan.**

Jen Kader, chair of Water Working Group, sent email on July 13 to all CEAC members requesting approval to submit comment letter to City on Stormwater Plan. Those voting approval include: James Nash, Darrell Gerber, Andrew Murray, Alejandro Ojeda Saint-Martin, Brian Ross, Dylan Bradford Kesti, Meleah Houseknecht, Michelle Stockness, Anna Abruzzese, Allan Campbell and Jen Kader. There was no quorum to codify the email vote.

**3) Minneapolis Comprehensive Plan – CEAC Role (Comp Plan Task Force).**

Brian Ross updated CEAC on a meeting the Comprehensive (Comp) Plan Task Force held on Monday to discuss CEAC's involvement in the City's Comp Plan process. Michelle Stockness and Brian Ross attended. Brian reviewed the recommendations that came out of the meeting:

Proposed CEAC recommendations:

1. Develop a public participation plan with CEAC input. This should be done before the Task Forces are formed to inform the membership and participation on the Task Forces.
2. Community stakeholders, including residents and businesses, should be participants on the Task Forces
3. Community stakeholders should be involved in decision making along with technical experts to help with prioritization of goals and policies
4. Task Forces should include the following cross-cutting lenses, which will inform each of the separate chapters of the plan:
  - a. Public participation
  - b. Resiliency
  - c. Climate change mitigation
  - d. Accessibility/mobility
  - e. Livability
  - f. Economic opportunity
  - g. Equity
  - h. Natural/ecological systems/greening
5. CEAC would like to participate as a stakeholder on task forces and provide comments on the draft plan(s).

CEAC expressed concern with being too focused on the Comp Plan process and details (which Community Planning and Economic Development should figure out) and suggested that CEAC phrase their recommendations as "key principles," such as cross-cutting Task Forces, ideas for participation, etc.

Brian Ross will draft a letter outlining the key principles that CEAC wants for the Comp Plan and send it to CEAC for review via email before the September CEAC meeting. CEAC will discuss and vote on the draft email and comments at the September meeting.

Meleah Houseknecht and Jen Kader asked to be added to the Comp Plan Task Force going forward.

#### **4) Community Indicators Update.**

Gayle Prest reported on the results of the City's Community Indicators process (see PowerPoint from City Council Study Session on Aug 5 <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/www/groups/public/@clerk/documents/webcontent/wcms1p-144934.pdf>). CEAC has been invited to submit comments to Councilmember Gordon by Friday, August 21. The Community Indicators will be discussed at City Council's Health, Environment and Community Engagement (HECE) Committee on August 24 and go to City Council on September 11. Due to the quick timeline, CEAC members should submit comments individually.

#### **5) Return to Items 1 & 2.**

Quorum was met at 4:45 p.m. and CEAC unanimously approved the August agenda (with a name spelling correction), June minutes and July minutes (with a correction to the list of people who email voted on the Stormwater Plan). Darrell moved to codify the email vote regarding the Stormwater Plan. Meleah seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

#### **6) City Staff and Member Announcements:**

- Free Hennepin Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events Aug 20-22
- Urban Sustainability Director's Network in Minneapolis Oct 25-28. Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE), MPLS 2015 are also here
- Mayor's 2016 recommended budget was released on August 12
- Public Works has recommended a policy to replace the 2004 Urban Forestry Policy
- Update from Waste on organics roll-out, new staff, Project Sweetie Pie 'State of Trash address', and amendment of the Zero Waste ordinance to include the plastic bag ban
- Kelly Muellman announced that Sustainability is starting a process to develop a citywide Green Zone policy and we will be engaging CEAC as the process kicks off
- Great River Greening is recruiting 500+ volunteers for events through September. Contact Jen Kader if you are interested ([jen.wendland.kader@gmail.com](mailto:jen.wendland.kader@gmail.com)). Also contact Jen if you want worms for compost.
- Ben Knudson advertised the County's Recycle Everywhere campaign (<http://www.hennepin.us/recycleeverywhere>)
- Lisa Daniels is recruiting volunteers for the Windustry booth at the State Fair Eco Experience. Volunteers get a free ticket to the Fair and t-shirt. Email Lisa ([lisdaniels@windustry.org](mailto:lisdaniels@windustry.org)) to sign up.
- Andrew Murray announced that notice was given on the Zero-Waste ordinance and it is moving forward
- Darrell Gerber announced that the Minnesota PUC is having a public hearing on the Cost of Carbon on August 26

7) Next meeting Thursday September 10, 3:30-5:30 p.m. meeting items and adjourn.

CEAC Future Item Ideas: MPRB Ecological Systems update. Composting outreach. Mayor's proposed 2016 budget on environmental programs.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.