

Helena Citizens Council Regular Meeting
April 28, 2010 - 7:00 p.m.
City/County Building - Room 326

Members present: Winston Greely, Lorabelle Behlmer, David Scrimm, Bobette Madonna, Stanley Johnson, Bob Clarkson, Erick Woodland, Olivia Tooley, Dan Bernhardt, Ellen Bell, Collin Watters, Randy Phillips, Roy Henry, Albert Clark, Jim Penner, M.C. Beeby, Carrie Severson, Bob Habeck, Janet Hess-Herbert, John Forbes, Sande Wilson, Frank Rives, Kent Schlosser and HCC Coordinator Bonnie O'Neill.

Members absent: Jim McCormick and Eric Ball.

Visitors: HPD Lieutenant Steve Hagen, Community Development Director Sharon Haugen, Green Blocks Program Representative Jim O'Donnell, Former City Commissioner Alan Peura, Global Climate Change Task Force (GCCTF) Chair Stan Bradshaw, AERO Representative Kelsey Bower and Lewis & Clark County Sustainability Coordinator Diana Maneta.

HCC Meeting minutes- February 24, 2010

The minutes were approved with a correction to page 1 regarding the Fire Department grant.

Helena Police Department Report

Lt. Steve Hagen discussed a recent attempted homicide in Helena, criminal mischief at Memorial Park and dog license requirements. Discussion was held about skateboarders on the Walking Mall.

Finance Report

The finance report was approved as submitted.

Presentation - Green Blocks Program

Community Development Director Sharon Haugen and Mr. Jim O'Donnell gave an overview of the Green Blocks Program sponsored by Northwestern Energy and asked for the HCC's assistance in recruiting participants. It was noted participants must attend a mandatory meeting to be held the week of May 3, 2010.

Motion: made by Janet Hess-Herbert, seconded by Sande Wilson to help recruit citizens to participate in the Green Blocks Program. *All voted, motion carried.*

Presentation - Climate Change Report

GCCTF Chair Stan Bradshaw discussed the Task Force recommendations and encouraged the HCC to support the hiring of a sustainability coordinator and the formation of a City/County Green Team and Citizen's Conservation Board.

Motion: made by Janet Hess-Herbert, seconded by Ellen Bell to approve the following recommendation:

The Helena Citizens' Council recommends that the city of Helena hire a Sustainability Coordinator for FY2011, in accordance with IMP-1, whose duties will be to ensure implementation of the individual recommendations in the Global Climate Change Action Plan, related to both municipal and community-wide energy conservation, water conservation, and greenhouse gas reduction.

The Helena Citizens' Council recommends that the first year of funding for this position be taken from the FY2010 contingency funds that were designated by the City Commission in that budget upon adoption in June 2009.

All voted, motion carried.

Motion: made by Randy Phillips, seconded by Kent Schlosser, amended by David Scrimm to approve the following recommendation:

The Helena Citizens' Council proposes the creation of a green team of city staff to support implementation of recommendations and to facilitate ownership and adoption of environmentally sustainable practices by all City employees. In response to recommendation number IMP-2, the City manager has appointed a green team comprising department directors. Because the recommendation contemplated the use of city staff with specific skills and interest in the topic of energy conservation, the Helena Citizen's Council recommends that the city manager specifically invite the participation of line staff beyond the department directors to fully implement recommendation IMP-2. In addition HCC recommends that the City communicate with the county about possible joint efforts between the city's green team and the recently appointed Lewis and Clark County Green team to identify opportunities for energy conservation in city and county government.

All voted, motion failed.

Motion: made by Janet Hess-Herbert, seconded by Frank Rives to recommend the creation of a Green Team to the City Manager in an informal manner. *All voted aye, motion carried.*

Motion: made by Olivia Tooley, seconded by Ellen Bell to approve the following recommendation:

The Helena Citizen's Council recommends that the city of Helena implement Task Force recommendation number IMP-3 to form an ongoing Citizen Conservation Board that will support the implementation of the Climate Change Task Force recommendations. The underlying goal of this recommendation is to foster ongoing citizen engagement with the city's greenhouse gas reduction and water conservation measures and to provide ongoing monitoring and oversight of the effort.

All voted, motion carried.

VISTA/HCC Coordinator's Report

Discussion was held on applying for the 3-year VISTA Program.

District Reports

District 1 - none given

District 2 - none given

District 3 - none given

District 4 - none given

District 5 - none given

District 6 - none given

District 7 - none given

Committee/Board Updates

Marketing Committee - discussion of the mission statement of the committee was held. It was decided Chair Bernhardt would appoint the chair of the Marketing Committee, Winston Greely, per past practice.

Motion: made by Winston Greely, seconded by Eric Woodland to accept the mission statement. All voted, motion carried.

2011 Neighborhood Fair

Discussion was held on holding the fair before the time change and during colder months, an example of February was given.

Motion: made by Olivia Tooley, seconded by Carrie Severson to task the Marketing Committee with selecting the date for the 2011 Fair. All voted, motion carried.

Social Media Report

The social media use experiment was successful with Facebook being utilized more than Twitter.

Motion: made by David Scrimm, seconded by Bob Clarkson that the HCC continue to utilize social media to connect with Helena citizens. All voted, motion carried.

New Business:

“Wildfire Response & Expectations in Helena’s Wildland Urban Interface” Meeting - Bob Habeck gave an overview of the meeting and requested funding, marketing ideas and HCC participation.

Motion: made and seconded to authorize the use of \$500 to promote the meeting. All voted, motion carried.

Process for submission of agenda items - Chair Bernhardt will send the policy out to all council members.

Upcoming Meetings:

- HCC Monthly Meeting - Wednesday, May 26, 2010 @ 7:00p.m. - City/County Bldg, Room 326
- HCC Monthly Meeting with City Manager Alles - May 10, 2010 @ 11:00 a.m. - City/County Bldg, Room 326
- City Administrative Meetings:
 - May 5, 2010
 - May 19, 2010
- City Commission Meetings:
 - May 10, 2010
 - May 24, 2010

Adjournment - There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.