

Minutes for January 10, 2024 CCL-KC General Membership Meeting

1. The January 10, 2024 CCL-KC General Membership Meeting convened by Zoom-only due to the poor road conditions. Attending the Zoom were Stephen Melton, Lorraine Elmore, Donna Jones, Frank Zilm (host), Sharen Hunt, Kurt Kloster, Karen Uhlenhuth, Paula Leppert, Dan Mroz, and Dennis Hilger. Thanks to all who contributed to this meeting.

2. Announcements.

a. Pizza Party at Spin Pizza in December was a great success. We decided to do this yearly!

b. The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act (H.R.5744) has been reintroduced. CCL priority now is to get House co-sponsors. Learn more at citizensclimatelobby.org. Click on the Take Action link.

c. The Big Wires Act has been introduced in both houses of Congress. Was a CCL Primary Ask at November 4 Conference. Goal is to permit and build transmission lines to move wind and solar energy from region to region. Target is 30% over peak load. (Or plus 15% from current transmission capacity.)

3. Update on Energy Efficient Buildings. (Frank is lead.)

a. IECC2021 is in full effect in KCMO and the phasing-in period is over. Karen reported that there was a huge increase in building permit approvals before the September ending of the phase-in period.

b. Kansas municipalities and others are waiting on the 2024 IECC to try to standardize building codes in the Metro.

4. Discussion on Trees and Urban Reforestation (Karen is lead.)

a. Letters were sent to all KCMO city council members in November.

b. Group discussed the passage of Ballot Measure 2 (authorizing sale of 5.399 acres of Northland forest) and the next steps we might take to keep the sale and presumed deforestation from happening. Karen reported the parcel is not yet up for bid. Sharen said she would get with Northland pols to see what is going on.

c. Much discussion about the unknowns in the Parks and Forestry budget. Also about the difference between “street trees” and “forests”.

d. Karen, Paula, and Lorraine all reported that KCKO’s Public Works Department is making every effort to preserve street trees as it makes sidewalk repairs. Karen asks that KCMO residents go to <https://www.kcmo.gov/city-hall/departments/public-works/sidewalks/sidewalks-and-trees/sidewalk-backlog> to see the work being done in their neighborhoods and report to her if street trees are being preserved.

5. Missouri Bills to Track

a. HB 1705 and HB 1854 on solar net metering and user generation limits. Renew Missouri opposes both bills. We decided to wait on acting until we can understand in plain English what the bills would do. CCL and CCL-KC are strong supporters of solar.

b. Preemption of local building codes using 2021 IECC. Frank assumes a preemptive bill will be reintroduced, but knows of no current action to do so.

c. There were no other bills, of which we were aware, on which CCL-KC would make a lobbying effort.

6. Grassroots Engagement (Lorraine is lead.)

a. Tabling was very effective this year! Thanks again to all volunteers!

b. 2024 Tabling Season kickoff will be the Northland Ethnic Festival at Staley High School on April 13. This was highly successful last year.

c. Lorraine will re-apply for Brookside Farmers Market for 2024, but reports BFM is reorganizing, our POC is gone, and situation is unclear.

d. Nothing heard about Laura's offer to contact Art Garden K.C. to see if we can table with them at the City Market.

e. Greater KC Science Fair at Union Station. Awards judging will be on March 28 and awards ceremony will be on March 30. Steve, Frank, and Alan will cover this. \$650 in prize money is still on account.

7. Urbavore Urban Farms and Compost Collective KC. (Donna and Lorraine are leads.) Donna and Lorraine attended the Zoning Commission hearing on the issues and listened to testimony from both supporters and neighbors. The ZC gave them six months to address neighbor concerns, at which time the situation would be reevaluated. Lorraine expressed optimism that everything would be worked out.

8. CCL Climate Action Program.

a. Please contact your senators and representatives on a regular basis. Go to: <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/get-loud-take-action/>

b. CCL's January push is to e-mail your senators and representatives in support of H.R.5744 and Permitting Reform. Learn more at citizensclimatelobby.org. Click on the Take Action link.

c. Steve and Kurt both commented on how easy it was to send emails to your representatives using this CCL site. Takes only five minutes! Please participate.

8. Treasury. Donna reported we have \$1139.35 in unobligated funds in our checking account.

9. New Business. Paula recommended the movie "Common Ground" about regenerative farming and preserving healthy soil. She said a similar movie called "Kiss the Ground" is available on Amazon for \$3.99.

10. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

11. Our next CCL-KC meeting will be on Wednesday, February 14 at 6:30 PM. Based on group consensus, the February 14 meeting will be Zoom only. URL is <https://kansas.zoom.us/j/93613734349>. Passcode: 977819.

Thanks to everyone for all you do!

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