

## Minutes for October 11, 2023 CCL-KC General Membership Meeting

1. The October 11, 2023 CCL-KC General Membership Meeting convened at the Plaza Library at 6:30 PM. Attending in person were Stephen Melton, Lorraine Elmore, and Frank Zilm. Attending via Zoom were Kurt Kloster, Karen Uhlenhuth, Paula Leppert, and newcomer Claudia Wilson, who is a freshman at St. Theresa's Academy in KCMO. Thanks to all who contributed to this meeting.

### 2. Announcements.

a. 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](https://citizensclimatelobby.org). Click on the Take Action link.

b. CCL other emphasis now is bipartisan permitting reform legislation.

c. Congress is focussed House Speaker election, international crises, annual spending bills, and the renewal of the five-year Farm Bill. May be a government shutdown or short-term continuing resolutions.

d. CCL has scheduled a virtual conference, followed by lobbying, for the first weekend in November. This is a great opportunity to learn about CCL's strategy for the 118th Congress. You can sign up for the November 3-5 conference at: <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/climate-change-conferences/fall/>

e. If you want to be on a liaison team for Senators Hawley or Schmidt, contact me.

### 3. Update on Energy Efficient Buildings.

a. IECC2021 is in full effect in KCMO and the phasing-in period is over.

b. Frank reported that he and other members of the KC chapter of the American Institute of Architects are meeting with council members Bough and Bunch to maintain their support for the building codes. (There was some discussion regarding the greater receptiveness of the newly elected city council to climate action.)

c. Parkville again discussed IECC2021 on July 18. No decision or vote. (No change since last month.)

### 4. Discussion on Urban Reforestation Next Steps.

a. The group decided to write a letter to the KCMO council members and mayor, with the aim to strengthen the 2023 Tree Preservation Ordinance when it comes up for review early in 2024. Karen submitted a draft letter earlier in the day, which was briefly reviewed and lengthily discussed.

b. An ad hoc committee consisting of Frank, Lorraine, Paula, and I volunteered to review the letter and provide comment back to Karen, who would produce a subsequent draft. If you wish to join the ad hoc committee and/or receive a copy of the draft, please contact me.

c. Our goal is to approve a final draft letter for my signature at our next meeting.

d. Karen also regaled us with stories of her recent tree planting on city land and rights of way—46 trees in the last few days—and the infectious enthusiasm she and others have developed for the effort. ("Best thing I've ever done!"). We all agreed that we should continue to push this CCL priority.

## 5. Grassroots Engagement

a. Tabling was very effective this year! (KCMO election and building codes, especially.) Thanks to all volunteers!

b. Our sole remaining date at Brookside Farmers Market is October 14. Lorraine will provide the BFM with a CCL-KC thank you card and \$50 donation. (To sign up, please contact Lorraine Elmore at [lelmore@kc.rr.com](mailto:lelmore@kc.rr.com).)

c. We have two upcoming volunteer opportunities supporting urban reforestation:

-Bridging the Gap needs volunteers to help pass out free trees from 8:30-12:30 on Saturday, October 14 at The Bay waterpark, 7101 Longview Rd, Kansas City, MO 64134. Here's the link to volunteer: <https://www.tfaforms.com/4926901?shiftid=a04Nu000000MWPR&%20jobid=a025d00000ztMct>.

-On Saturday, October 21, from 9am to 10ish, CCL-KC (MO and KS) will help Bridging the Gap plant trees in McCoy Park (5801-5999 E 15th Terrace, KCMO). This should be a lot of fun! Sign up at: <https://www.tfaforms.com/4807761?shiftid=a045d00001RGxM9&jobid=a025d000013A3PQ>

## 6. Letters in Support of Urbavore Urban Farms and Compost Collective KC. (Continued from last month's new business.)

a. The members voted to urge all CCL-KC members living in KCMO to e-mail their council members in support of the above businesses.

b. Go to [saveurbavore.com](http://saveurbavore.com), then Send Letter to KCMO Council. After entering your name, enter Citizens' Climate Lobby-Kansas City, Missouri Chapter as your organization. Add the following personal note, minus the quotation marks, above your signature [Personal Note Here]:

"Citizens' Climate Lobby-Kansas City, Missouri Chapter applauds the work of Urbavore Urban Farm and Compost Collective KC in reducing greenhouse gas emissions in accordance with the City's Climate Protection and Resiliency Plan.

The Farm produces organic food for thousands of residents, reducing the amount of noxious chemicals and fuel used to produce and transport food from farther away. They also provide a level of local food security.

Compost Collective KC processes over a million pounds of food waste yearly, diverting it from landfills where it produces methane, a gas that is 28 times more damaging than CO2. By composting organic waste instead of dumping it in a landfill, CO2 is reduced by 50%. Compost acts as a carbon sink, soaking up emissions currently in the air.

Please support these businesses in continuing their important environmental work."

c. Thank you for supporting this worthy cause. And thank Donna for doing all the leg work on this!

7. 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. October push is to phone your senators and representatives in support of H.R.5744 and Permitting Reform. Learn more at [citizensclimatelobby.org](https://citizensclimatelobby.org). Click on the Take Action link.
8. Frank requested updated information for the website, which I agreed to provide.
9. Treasury. No report due to Donna's illness.
10. New Business. Frank recommended reading the "Parrot and the Igloo" by David Lipsky, a book on the origins of climate denial.
11. The meeting adjourned at 7:39 PM.
12. Our next CCL-KC meeting will be WEDNESDAY November 8 at 6:30 in the Plaza Library small meeting room. If you wish to participate virtually, on Zoom. Go to: <https://kansas.zoom.us/j/98748227587>, Passcode: 549322.

Thanks to everyone for all you do!

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