

**CITY OF BOULDER, COLORADO  
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS MEETING SUMMARY**

**NAME OF BOARD/COMMISSION:** Environmental Advisory Board

**DATE OF MEETING:** December 9, 2015

**NAME/TELEPHONE OF PERSON PREPARING SUMMARY:** Sandy Briggs/303-441-1931.

**NAMES OF MEMBERS, STAFF AND INVITED GUESTS PRESENT:**

**Environmental Advisory Board Members Present:** Steve Morgan, Tim Hillman, Brad Queen and Morgan Lommele.

**Environmental Advisory Board Member Absent:** Karen Crofton.

**Staff Members Present:** Brett Ken Cairn and Melinda Melton.

**MEETING SUMMARY:**

❖ **Annual Letter to City Council Discussion**

- The following areas were determined to be the EAB's priorities:
  - Environmental Issue Engagement and Communication
  - Issue Prioritization via Integration and Modeling
  - Commercial Sector Involvement
  - Residential Sector Involvement
  - Funding for Clean Energy Technology Companies
  - Elimination of Neonicotinoid Pesticide Use
- The board determined specificity, measuring and a modeling framework need greater attention and influence and this will be reflected in their letter.
- It was mentioned that programs offering strong incentives are more easily accepted and therefore potentially of greater benefit.
- The board agrees that neither the EAB nor the city should take action without a definitive idea of what the goals are, how to measure a plan's effectiveness and what success looks like.
- There was a strong consensus that the board needs more time to review communications materials in order to be an effective participant in communication plan discussions.
- The board decided to add a note at the end of the letter requesting Council ask them immediately and directly for any clarification or questions as one or more board members will attend the Council meeting during which the letter will be read.
- **M. Lommele** suggested many items be rephrased into defined actions or policy steps.
- The board will reiterate their support of the Building Performance Ordinance and GHG reduction strategies as well as continued evaluation of the Boulder Energy Challenge and research into additional investment finance incentive options.
- **T. Hillman's** portion of the letter encourages continuing emphasis on the residential sector and the potential creation of a Residential Energy Conservation Ordinance that would apply to the 20,000 owner-occupied homes in the city. This would include time-of-sale energy efficiency requirements that have already been mentioned by Council and are also mentioned as a possible future policy initiative in the Climate Commitment Draft

Document.

- It was suggested that ordinance driven change will be more effective than voluntary approaches.
- In addition to providing Council the top priorities in the eyes of the board, **T. Hillman** recommended emphasizing the Climate Commitment initiative as key.
- The board agreed the letter will also reflect continued support of the elimination of the use of neonicotinoid pesticides within the city.
- **M. Lommele** will edit most of the letter and take the lead with providing a final draft.

## **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Environmental Advisory Board Chair **S. Morgan** declared a quorum and the meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm.

## **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On a motion by **S. Morgan**, seconded by **T. Hillman**, the Environmental Advisory Board voted 4-0 (**K. Crofton** absent) to approve the November 4, 2015 meeting minutes.

## **3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None.

## **4. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS**

### **A. Review Drafts and Complete Final Annual Letter to City Council**

The board reviewed the letters and comments from each board member and discussed what to include in and how to structure their annual letter to City Council.

**S. Morgan, B. Queen, M. Lommele and T. Hillman** summarized their comments on their draft letters. Details are captured in the meeting summary.

## **5. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **A. Climate Commitment Community Engagement Process**

The engagement strategy will be kicked into high gear starting in February.

There was not enough time to engage a full discussion with the board. The item was tabled until the February meeting since the EAB will have a retreat in January.

## **6. OLD BUSINESS/UPDATES**

- ❖ **S. Morgan** informed the board that \$110,000 in Solar Grant funds was awarded to three parties and suggested the good press from this be leveraged to encourage continued great work on the environmental front.

## **7. MATTERS FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD, CITY MANAGER AND CITY ATTORNEY**

- ❖ Board chair **S. Morgan's** tenure with the EAB ends in March. Therefore, the board will need to transition in a new chair. **T. Hillman** will assume this responsibility starting in January of 2016 with support and assistance from **S. Morgan** until his term ends. **T. Hillman** noted that he might need to step down himself since he's likely moving out of state and may not be able to serve effectively after May or June 2016. He will keep the board apprised of his plans through the first part of the year and they will adjust as necessary depending on his final

situation.

**8. DEBRIEF MEETING/CALENDAR CHECK**

- ❖ The board calendar was mistakenly read that the next regular meeting would be on Wednesday, January 6, 2016, but later corrected to reflect the EAB retreat on that date. Regular meetings will resume on February 3, 2016.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

Environmental Advisory Board adjourned at 8:07 pm.

Approved:

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Chair

Date

DRAFT