

Citizens for Clean Energy, Inc. (CCE)

www.ccemontana.org

Minutes for June 14, 2022 Meeting

Location: Zoom meeting in Great Falls and at the same time an in-person meeting at the Black Bear Diner, 1400 Market Place Drive, Great Falls, MT 59404 (no-host dinner at 6 p.m. in restaurant meeting room).

Welcome: David Saslav, Chair Pro Tem, called the in-person and Zoom meeting to order at 7 p.m. Seven CCE members attended the meeting; a quorum was present. Thank you, David Saslav and Melissa Smith, for setting up the Zoom meeting and streaming the in-person meeting to those who chose the Zoom option.

Secretary: Kathy Gessaman summarized the May 10, 2022 CCE Zoom meeting minutes. **Shannon Wilson moved to accept the May 10, 2022 CCE, Inc. electronically distributed minutes; Melissa Smith seconded.** There was no discussion; **the minutes were approved.**

Treasurer: Shannon Wilson said there was no activity in the CCE account since the last CCE meeting. **Lita Sharone moved to accept the Treasurer's report, and David Saslav seconded the motion.** There was no discussion. **The motion was approved.**

Thank you, Melissa Smith, for donating the \$25 room reservation fee for the Black Bear Diner conference room!

CCE Website/Communications: Please visit the active CCE, Inc. website for the latest updates on CCE activities at <https://www.ccemontana.org/>. The original CCE website address continues to be used as a historical archive along with current LENR info at <http://www.cce-mt.org/>. Send articles of general interest and notices about CCE activity to Kathy G. at cce.secretary@gmail.com. Please check out the new website to view links to current events.

CCE Facebook: Shannon Wilson is the administrator of CCE's Facebook site and David is a co-administrator. Please visit the site at <https://www.facebook.com/Great-Falls-Citizens-for-Clean-Energy-CCE-110217491438621/>. Shannon said there were no boosts in the last month.

Unfinished Business:

Conservation Outreach and Resolution 10333: David asked how best to discuss conservation ideas with the Neighborhood Councils (NCs). Kathy said most NCs allow 5-15 minutes for presentations but speakers need to get on the NC agenda first; speakers can go to the City of Great Falls' website for NC contact information. Ken Palisin said he gave a 5-7 minute presentation to NC5 and discussed energy conservation, recycling, composting and neighborhood gardens. Ken wanted to get a team of 2-3 people to develop a presentation for other councils. David said he would like to be a part of the team and thought they should start with the handout given by Commissioners Mary Moe and Traci Houck to the City Commission (see Feb. 18, 2020 City Commission Agenda Report for Res. 10333) that summarized how other Montana cities are promoting cost-effective energy and developing solutions for conservation and sustainability.

Shelly Kelly said she read Resolution 10333 and wondered if it was going to be revived. David said the resolution was tabled until after the pandemic and the group that was going to do the energy audit is no longer in business so the resolution would need to be rewritten. David said the Sierra Club has good suggestions for helping cities become carbon neutral by 2030. David noted without a resolution promoting conservation and sustainability, there is no pressure on projects like the Aquatics & Recreation Center (ARC) to be more energy efficient and carbon neutral. The Park Foundation might be able to use C-PACE funding to help reduce energy usage at the ARC.

NPRC: David suggested CCE send around information about activities promoted by the Northern Plains Resource Council (NPRC) or their associate, the Golden Triangle Resource Council (GTRC). David noted if people wanted to join NPRC to remember to say they live in the GTRC's territory.

David attended the GTRC meeting and said they are promoting C-PACE in Pondera, Teton, and Chouteau Counties. David said they plan to follow Rich's playbook and talk to the County Commissioners first. David said GTRC has a four-member team including Lisa Schmidt who writes an article for the "Great Falls Tribune" and they hoped to talk to Rich about strategy for promoting C-PACE in the nearby counties. David noted Gerry Jennings is helping to write the GTRC bylaws and NPRC is being very helpful.

Lita asked how new businesses could learn about C-PACE and David said he would reach out to the Great Falls Chamber of Commerce about spreading the word about C-PACE.

New Business:

CCE History: David said many early CCE members have passed away and the history of CCE needs to be recorded before the history is lost. Aart Dolman, a staunch supporter of CCE and a long time Steering Team member, recently passed away and will be sorely missed. Shannon Wilson volunteered to write the history as she has a wonderful resource in her cousin, Jerry Taylor, the Webmaster for the original CCE website.

Energy and Water Conservation Ideas: Melissa said she would try to make a list of energy efficient home appliances if people are planning to upgrade their appliances. Lita suggested the list be read on KGPR. David said conservation ideas should be promoted around Great Falls. Kathy noted there should be a goal before the group spends money on advertisements.

Reports:

Coal Lease Moratorium: Rich emailed that the status of the Moratorium has not changed.

The next CCE, Inc. meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, September 13, 2022 at 7 p.m. The meeting will be held in-person at Black Bear Diner with a Zoom connection as well.

Watch your email for location and Zoom meeting instructions. Please email agenda items to Rich L. at wwranch@3rivers.net.

Kathy Gessaman moved to adjourn and Melissa Smith seconded; the meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Please check your email and the CCE, Inc. website for additions or updates.

- June 21 – City of Great Falls Commission meeting, 7 p.m.
- July 05 – City of Great Falls Commission meeting, 7 p.m.
- July 19 – City of Great Falls Commission meeting, 7 p.m.
- Aug 02 – City of Great Falls Commission meeting, 7 p.m.
- Aug 16 – City of Great Falls Commission meeting, 7 p.m.
- Sept 06 – City of Great Falls Commission meeting, 7 p.m.
- Sept. 13 – CCE tentative in-person and Zoom meeting at 7 p.m. Dinner at Black Bear Diner at 6 p.m.

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.” Margaret Mead