

Mpls Green Teams Meeting Minutes

Thursday Sept 26, 2019 6:30 - 8:30PM [Painter Park](#) 620 W 34th St

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/mplsgreenteams/>

[Minneapolis Green Teams website](#)

6:30 Intros, neighborhood and fave thing about their neighborhood:

Aaro Weiss, Nokomis East Neighborhood Assn: Green Fair April 18th, 2020 12-4 at Roosevelt High School - wants 500 people to come

Andrea Seigel, Tangletown: home energy rebates as a match and a step after Home Energy Squad visit

John Benda, Linden Hills: regenerative soil project

Sean Gosiewski, Corocran: Midtown Farmers Market is going really well; 12 Pollinator Gardens; fought bad landlord

Kathleen Acaso, Folwell: her painted signs about littering that people put in yards and Neighborhood Connectors; people are getting really worried about energy and focusing on energy efficiency

Cecelia Newton, Kenny: organics recycling

Kyle Samejima, executive director of Minneapolis Climate Action, Lyndale: community gardens and zero waste efforts at free weekly community dinner

There is lots of info in the minutes below, so will post To-Do Items and time-sensitive items below and here:

TO DO LIST:

1. City Climate Fund Talking Points: Get a primer on the programs that the nhoods could use
Get talking points on Climate Fund to get to Green Teams for outreach to mayor
2. John Benda: can bring talking points to [Neighborhood Community and Engagement Commission](#) about outreach to City Hall
3. Cecelia wants her church to help with costs of energy upgrades
4. John wants to start ecology group committee at the NCEC level; need to unite new wasteful development and transportation, and soil carbon capture and a grid into a unified vision
5. Aaron: doing carbon footprint and do it by neighborhood
6. THREE GREEN TEAM PRIORITIES: make a poll with open and closed recommendations

Time Sensitive Updates and Info:

1. Public hearing on the Mayor's recommended budget is set for November 7th from 9:30 - Noon - may put out call for support of climate related programs during the city budget hearings
2. [Northern Green Zone Task Force monthly meetings](#) – first Wednesday of the month from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Next meeting is Nov 6th, 2019 at Davis Center – Minneapolis Public Schools 1250 W Broadway Ave, Minneapolis. Members of the public are welcome to attend. To RSVP, email kelly.muellman@minneapolismn.gov

[Community Environmental Advisory Commission monthly meetings](#) – first Thursday of the month from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Next meeting is November 7th, 2019 at Whittier Rec Center, 425 W 26th St, Minneapolis. Time: 6:00-8:00 p.m. All are welcome. Green Building Policy is being intro'd at city council by Robin Garwood in November in order to be net zero by 2030; also working on a state building stretch standard for net zero buildings

[Southside Green Zone Council monthly meetings](#) – third Thursday of the month from 5:30-8:00 p.m. Next meeting is November 21st, 2019. Check location on the [website](#). All are welcome.

3. Yard waste collection ends week of 11/18 – simple reminder that the collection season is winding down. Good time to promote keeping storm drains clear (and [adopting storm drains](#))
4. Minneapolis Green Teams Action Alert: Protect Investments in the City of Minneapolis 2020 City Budget in Energy Efficiency & Climate Solutions - see extensive info at the bottom of the notes

7:00 City updates

Kim Havey: Director, City Coordinator's Division of Sustainability and Kelly Muellman, Sustainability Program Coordinator, Minneapolis City Coordinator's Office of Sustainability:

- Annual report to [the Clean Energy Partnership](#) was released. The most notable finding is the emissions from natural gas now exceed emissions from electricity. TISH Energy Disclosure requirement can help with this. Could use campaign to get franchise fee from 50 cents to 1.00. We should get nhoods reaching out to City Hall to get more general fund dollars into efficiency besides the franchise fee
- The City of Minneapolis will be intervening in the Xcel Energy Integrated Resources Plan (IRP) which will give the city a seat at the table with Xcel when deciding on which power generation will be built over the next 15 years.
- The City of Minneapolis is planning to intervene in the CenterPoint Energy rate case to introduce and Inclusive Financing Pilot.
- The Food Council is continuing to host community meetings to gather input on the [Food Action Plan](#). The next meeting is November 13th from 5 – 7:30 at Roosevelt High School.
- [Lawns to Legumes funding](#) from the Board of Soil and Water Resources will be available for application in spring 2020 focused on planting residential lawns with native vegetation and pollinator friendly forbs and legumes to protect a diversity of pollinators
- The City is declaring October 2, 2019 as [Minneapolis Energy Efficiency Day](#)
- Public hearing on the Mayor's recommended budget is set for November 7th from 9:30 - Noon - may put out call for support of climate related programs during the city budget hearings
- On Monday, October 7 community members are invited to attend **Invisible Cost of Housing: Creative Tools to Lower Energy Bills & Protect Community Health** at Hosmer Library from 5:30-7:30 p.m. [Facebook event](#) and flyer (attached).
- City will be having some stakeholder meetings about the City's 100% Renewable Electricity Blueprint. We will share more information with you to send out to the Green Teams neighborhoods soon.
- [Mobility Hub Pilot](#): The City of Minneapolis has launched a mobility hub pilot program to increase access to convenient, low or no carbon transportation options, including transit, shared scooters and Nice Ride bicycles. The three-month pilot program will inform a long-term plan to

implement a larger mobility hub network in Minneapolis. The City of Minneapolis is collaborating with Metro Transit, Hennepin County, mobility service providers and neighborhood organizations on the pilot.

City Updates from Kellie Kish: Recycling Coordinator for City of Minneapolis:

- Recycle Smart campaign – metro transit piece of campaign is ending, social media campaign is still going with the theme changing every two weeks. A cart hanger will be placed under the lid of every recycling cart in the City in the next several weeks to remind folks that plastic bags, large plastic items and random metal items cannot be placed in recycling carts. It's at the printer right now – estimate the week of 10/7 and 10/14 for it to go out.
- Yard waste collection ends week of 11/18 – simple reminder that the collection season is winding down. Good time to promote keeping storm drains clear (and adopting storm drains)
- I'm working on finalizing our 2019 summer intern report. We reached out to all buildings with 4 or more dwelling units that we service who didn't have recycling to let the tenants (and UB payers and taxpayers) know they could get recycling at no extra cost. We tracked who signed up and checked recycling carts for first three collections following the delivery of their cart(s). Goal was to see if it was worth the time and energy or if we'd just be delivering carts to take carts away a couple of months later. Results show it was worth the time and effort and we're getting more clean recycling. We will be sending a postcard to all properties who do not have a recycling cart in the next several weeks to let them know they can also get a recycling cart at no extra cost.
- Other standard updates:
 - Encourage folks to sign up for Recycling Reminders – lots of good information included. Also happy to take suggestions on common questions to include for all to learn about.
 - Recycling Block Leader program – Encourage people to become a recycling block leader. I'm hoping to schedule a training in the next several weeks.

Neighborhood Updates

- Climate Strike in North Minneapolis: 9/27
Leaving at 11am. Walking to the Davis Center to arrive at 11:30. We'll talk to Ed Graff of MPS about our 2nd demand. Then going to North Commons.
We will have pizza , music and a basketball 🏀 and speaking on climate change.
WE WANT:
1) Hennepin County to fund \$10,000,000 for youth green jobs
2) Minneapolis Public School to teach climate change in every grade by the 2020-2021 school year.
- All neighborhoods: [Litter Be Gone Minneapolis](#): sign up info, bags, gloves & pickers will be handed out
Litter Be Gone city-wide litter cleanup events, October 3–12, 2019 in Minneapolis. <http://www.litterbegone.org/participate/> **Neighborhood**

Events – Neighborhood groups and organizations are encouraged to host a Litter Be Gone cleanup to engage their neighbors, clean up the neighborhood, and create a sense of community pride. We make it simple to promote your event using our [Media Kit](#) and [Outreach Materials](#), and will provide your organization with gloves, bags, litter grabbers, and free drink incentives for your volunteers. *(As a thank you, all event leaders will receive a free 1-year subscription to the Chinook Book app!)*

- Linden Hills: Regenerative soil projects and the more recently formed Lake Harriet Environment Council. Check out 4017 Queen Ave S in Linden Hills for a test plot of lawn that was turned into a demo regenerative soil project - no lawn, planted fescue grass seeds, native plants, fruits and vegetables. They will do test of soil for carbon sequestration. Kiss the Ground videos are good resource
- Lyndale and Kingfield: Hennepin County Organics Recycling Grant updates, new organics drop of site at Zion Lutheran Church at 33rd and Pillsbury - will send link to everyone when it's live
- Who is interested in an interim event to plan for the next meeting and take Green Teams to a more effective and useful level? Please email kyle@mplsclimate.org if you're interested.

Minneapolis Green Teams Coalition Coordinators: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/mplsgreenteams/>

- Kyle Samejima, Executive Director, Minneapolis Climate Action (612) 849-0725 kyle@mplsclimate.org
- Sean Gosiewski, Executive Director, Alliance for Sustainability 612 250-0389 sean@afors.org

Minneapolis Green Teams Action Alert!

Protect Investments in the City of Minneapolis 2020 City Budget in Energy Efficiency & Climate Solutions!

Make your Voice Heard in October and November before the City Council Votes on the budget on Dec. 11.

OUR REQUEST TO THE CITY COUNCIL for the 2020 Budget –

- **ONE** - for the 2020 Budget – **maintain our 2019 budget investment of 3.7 million** in Sustainability and Energy Efficiency Programs (staffing and programs) by maintaining the 1 million General Fund and 2.8 Million from the franchise fee increase
- **TWO** – The City Council in 2020 should also vote **double our utility Franchise Fee** to raise \$6 million/year (up from the current \$3 million/year) so that for 2021 the City of Minneapolis can **invest 6 million** in Sustainability and Energy Efficiency Programs (staffing and programs) to be funded by the increased franchise fee alone without the need for General Fund investment to
 - o Get Minneapolis on track to **meet our City-wide climate goals on time** while

- o Meeting the huge unmet demand from Minneapolis residents and businesses for the **Business Cost Share Program, Home Energy Squad Visits and Zero Interest Loans for Home Weatherization.**

Ask your Council Member and the Mayor's office to restore the full 3.7 million for sustainability & energy efficiency investments in the 2020 City Budget

City Council Members <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/council/index.htm> and

- **Mayor's Office** - Heidi Ritchie Environment and Sustainability Policy Director City of Minneapolis, Mayor's Office (612) 673-2283
heidi.ritchie@minneapolismn.gov

Attend and offer support at City Budget Hearing Nov 7, Dec 4 or Dec 11 www.minneapolismn.gov/budget

The City Council will accept testimony on the budget at several forthcoming public hearings, all of which will be held in Room 317 at City Hall: **Nov. 7** at 9:30 a.m., at 6:05 p.m., and **Dec. 11** at 6:05 p.m. The City Council will vote on a revised budget at that final Dec. 11 meeting.

Background – The City of Minneapolis is still not on track to meet our city wide climate goals on time –

- Climate Goals <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/sustainability/climate-action-goals/index.htm>
- Not on track <https://energynews.us/digests/natural-gas-is-preventing-minneapolis-from-meeting-climate-goals/>

Our Minneapolis 2018 franchise fee increase for climate and energy action made big impacts in 2019!

- 2018 franchise fee increase for climate and energy action (now raising \$2.8 million dollars a year)
www.minneapolismn.gov/www/groups/public/@citycoordinator/documents/webcontent/wcmsp-206063.pdf
- Is now being invested by our Minneapolis Sustainability Office and Clean Energy Partnership to help residents and businesses city wide to save energy and money and accelerate meeting our Citywide Climate Goals - <http://minneapolismn.gov/sustainability/buildings-energy/index.htm>
- All the Minneapolis supported Energy Efficiency programs are way over-subscribed with long waiting lists

2019 Budget for Sustainability and Energy Efficiency (staffing and programs) – was 3.7 million (1 million General Fund and 2.8 Million from the franchise fee increase)

2020 Budget Proposal - www.minneapolismn.gov/budget Mayor Frey's current proposed 2020 budget for Sustainability & Energy Efficiency investments (staffing and programs) = 3 million (no general fund investment, funding provided only by the franchise fee increase)

Utility Franchise Fee Program Investments and City of Minneapolis Budget Process – Update, Sept 26, 2019

From [Karlee Weinmann](#) Ward 11 Policy Aide Office (612) 673-2211 Cell: (612) 240-2129 karlee.weinmann@minneapolismn.gov

Hi Sean - Thanks for your interest in sharing updates about the City's programs and initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in our community. As you know, decisions about investments in these efforts are generally made as part of the budget process, which is underway now and will continue through mid-December. There are several points at which members of the public will have an opportunity to share their priorities for City funding before the full City Council.

The budget process includes allocation of franchise fee revenue. Folks can see what's included in Mayor Frey's recommended budget, and see a full calendar of budget-related proceedings, at www.minneapolismn.gov/budget

The City Council will accept testimony on the budget at several forthcoming public hearings, all of which will be held in Room 317 at City Hall: Nov. 7 at 9:30 a.m., Dec. 4 at 6:05 p.m., and Dec. 11 at 6:05 p.m. The City Council will vote on a revised budget at that final Dec. 11 meeting.

Franchise fee revenues currently support high-impact climate action programs citywide.

These include the **Green (Business) Cost Share Program**, which several neighborhood organizations have leveraged to make earth-friendly improvements in their communities. Under the Cost Share umbrella are specific initiatives to install solar, promote energy efficiency, reduce pollution from certain types of businesses (i.e., dry cleaners and auto body shops), and more. A portion of the Green Cost Share specifically targets energy efficiency measures and solar installations to affordable housing. To date, the Cost Share Program has leveraged \$27.5 million private dollars with just \$3.9 million in City investment to further deep-impact projects. See more details, including a dashboard of results, at minneapolismn.gov/environment/greencostshare.

In addition, franchise fee revenues currently support initiatives designed to help the average Minneapolis resident or business owner access energy improvements. For example, the City has been offering **c** including air sealing and insulation, high-efficiency heating/cooling equipment, rooftop solar, and more. We have seen some neighborhoods using their own funds to create deeper incentives/additional rebates to encourage participation in these programs, which are one of our best tools to help folks reduce energy consumption and cut down on their utility bills. The Tangletown Neighborhood Association, for example, is innovating by matching the utility rebate for folks who pursue energy efficiency upgrades:

<http://www.tangletown.org/energy-improvement-rebate-program/>

Having recently learned that we are not on track to meet our climate goals as a community, it is critical that we think creatively and work together to maximize our impact on emissions reductions. We now know that natural gas is the largest source of emissions in Minneapolis, and dramatically improving the energy efficiency of our buildings is a necessary first step to solving that problem. Find a full list of franchise fee-enabled programming from 2018 and 2019 here:

https://mplscleanenergypartnership.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/2019-Plan-for-Franchise-Fee-Increase-Enabled-Programming_20190123.pdf. This

may be a helpful for reference for folks, especially as they consider advocating for continued support of climate action initiatives. Please let me know if I can provide further information.

It will be helpful for folks to contact their City Council Members as well as the Mayor to let them know that this type of programming is a priority. This type of outreach happens on a number of issues during budget time. Council Members can be reached via email using this format: firstname.lastname@minneapolismn.gov.

Looking forward to hearing more about this evening's meeting. Karlee

Karlee Weinmann Ward 11 *Policy Aide* Office (612) 673-2211 Cell: (612) 240-2129 karlee.weinmann@minneapolismn.gov

[Council Member Jeremy Schroeder, Ward 11](#)

City of Minneapolis – City Council 350 S. Fifth St. -- Room 307 Minneapolis, MN 55415