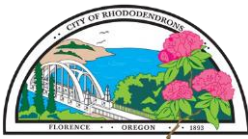


Items Distributed for the 3.8.23 meeting of the
Environmental Management Advisory Committee
(EMAC)



City of Florence
A City in Motion

**City of Florence
Environmental Management
Advisory Committee (EMAC)**

Florence City Hall
250 Hwy 101, Florence, OR 97439
541-997-3437 / www.ci.florence.or.us

**February 21, 2023
6:00 p.m.**

Meeting Notes

Thomas Benedict — Josh Haring — Ronelle Kuert — Vicki Philben — Linda Poppenheimer — Lisa Walter-Sedlacek-**Chair**
Ex-Officio: Sally Wantz, City Councilor – Wendy Farley Campbell, Staff
Ex-Officio: County Transfer & Recycling, Brian Enochian

CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL

Present: Thomas Benedict, Josh Haring, Ronelle Kuert, Vicki Philben, Linda Poppenheimer, Lisa Walter-Sedlacek, Wendy Farley Campbell, Brian Enochian

1. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA** – added item 6 Arbor Day and Earth Day Events
2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – Mike Allen, Mark Levy
3. **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR** – Vicki Philben
4. **PLASTIC RECYCLING EVENT FUNDING**
 - a. The committee discussed sponsoring upcoming Eco Generation recycling take-back events on March 4, July 1, and September 23, 2032. EMAC has sponsored Eco Generation in the past and will provide a \$600 sponsorship for 2023. Wendy said that Eco Generation needs to submit an invoice so the City can cut a check. Vicki was asked to follow up with Nancy from Eco Generation.
5. **GREEN MOVIE PARTICIPATION**
 - a. EMAC has previously sponsored a movie at City Lights Cinema for Earth Day. Lisa said she did not have information about which movies might be available for sponsorship and suggested the committee table the topic until the next meeting.
6. **ARBOR DAY AND EARTH DAY EVENTS**
 - a. The City has been awarded Tree City status again.
 - b. An Arbor Day Proclamation will be ready by Mayor Ward at the April 3, 2023, City Council meeting.
 - c. Tom said that Public Works is looking for volunteers to help package Flo Gro and wildflowers to hand out during the EMAC Arbor Day event. The packaging is being done tomorrow, February 22, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. at the Public Works building.
 - d. Ronelle said she had bought stickers and coloring books for kids for Arbor Day. The group discussed distributing something to the local schools for kids to color and bring to Arbor Day for a sticker.
 - e. The committee discussed potential activities for Arbor Day.
 - i. Flo Gro/wildflower distribution.
 - ii. Native plant ID.
 - iii. Speakers – Firewise and pollinators. There was a discussion about whether the event should be outside at the park or indoors. Vicki had talked with someone from Firewise. Josh and Tom said they have beekeeper contacts.
 - iv. Tree planting. Tom said he had contacted the local schools but had not received a response yet.
7. **SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES**
 - a. **Vegetation Code** – Wendy said that the vegetation code is currently being reviewed by the City attorney and should be completed by July 1, 2023.

- b. **Electric Vehicles** – Tom distributed information about electric vehicles and gave an overview of the existing EV charging stations in Florence.
- c. **Yard Debris/Biosolids** – Vicki had contacted Kelly Bell of Lane County Waste Management. There are currently four options for residents to dispose of yard debris.
 - i. During the summer months, Public Works schedules Saturday drop-offs. Yard debris collected is used to produce Flo Gro.
 - ii. Yard debris may be dropped off at the Florence Transfer Station. About 1/13th is used for Flo Gro. The rest is transported to the Glenwood Transfer Station in Eugene and then to Lane Forest Products, a for-profit company that turns the material into compost and sells it. The company charges a fee to accept the yard debris. In December 2022, Lane County paid approximately \$3,000 to Lane Forest Products.
 - iii. Yard debris people put in their trash ends up in the landfill.
 - iv. Florentine Estates and Green Trees have dumpsters where residents can drop off yard debris that goes to Lane Forest Products.
 - v. Kelly Bell suggested a garbage audit be conducted to provide EMAC and the City of Florence with data about how much yard debris is going to the landfill. She said BRING Recycling would provide this service for a cost of a few hundred dollars. Vicki said Lane County might pay for it. The group discussed doing the survey at the Florence transfer station on a Tuesday or Wednesday. Kelly had suggested 500 pounds for the survey. Several committee members thought 500 pounds was too low. Also, the amount and type of yard debris vary depending on the season. Kelly said she would be willing to attend the March EMAC meeting via Zoom. Vicki was asked to follow up with Kelly Bell. Wendy mentioned that if any EMAC members wanted to participate in the garbage survey, she would need to clear it with the City's Human Resources department.
 - vi. The group discussed updating the Kennedy Jenks survey with current conditions and costs. This would be a useful tool for use in determining options for curbside yard debris pickup and expansion of Flo Gro production. Wendy said would follow up with Public Works Director Mike Miller. Wendy said she would distribute the 2009 survey to EMAC via email.
 - vii. Food Waste Reduction – Linda and Vicki said they would be willing to go through the composting pilot information that Wendy brought to the meeting and follow up with people who participated. The intent is to produce composting how-to information and tips for public outreach. Linda asked about subsidies for composters for people who would like to try them. Wendy said Lane County might do this.
 - viii. Linda gave an overview of her discussion regarding a [municipal program for the FoodCycler countertop composter](#). This would provide another option for people to compost food waste. The units cost several hundred dollars and would be discounted by FoodCycler. Wendy suggested that Linda look into Lane County's grant cycle for funding. This would have to go before the City Council before applying for a grant.
- d. **Pollinators** – Linda gave an overview of the requirements to become a Bee City USA which includes forming a committee, actively creating habitat, an integrated pest management plan to reduce pesticide use, incorporating into city policies, events, online presence, and an annual report. A copy of an annual report for the City of Eugene was provided to EMAC. Linda suggested that in light of the reduced number of current EMAC members, the Bee City USA designation not be pursued at this time. The committee agreed to table it for now.

8. CLOSING COMMENTS

- a. The group discussed changing the monthly meeting date and time. Everyone agreed to change the EMAC monthly meeting to the second Wednesday of the month starting at 4:00 p.m. **The next meeting will be on March 8, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.**

Notes prepared by Linda Poppenheimer

March 8, 2023

Environmental Management Advisory Committee Meeting

Agenda Item #1

Public Comment

Speaker's Cards & Written Comments Received

Speaker's Cards – *In order of receipt*

- **Speaker 1** – Michael Allen (*Including Written Comments*)

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Submission information

Form: [Request to Address the Environmental Management Advisory Committee \(Speaker's Card\)](#) ^[1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified)

Tue, 03/07/2023 - 5:17pm

35.132.165.39

Name

Michael Allen

EMAC Meeting Date

Wed, 03/08/2023

Agenda Item Number

2

Do you wish to speak as a Proponent? Opponent? or Neutral

Proponent

Brief Overview of what you wish to discuss

Revisit Community Climate Solutions and Lane County Announcement

Do you represent an Organization?

yes

Name of Organization

Florence Climate Emergency Campaign

Residence Address

87490 Rhodowood Drive

Email

mikepatallen@earthlink.net

Phone Number

5054017762

Source URL: <https://www.ci.florence.or.us/node/18081/submission/30027>

Links

[1] <https://www.ci.florence.or.us/bc-ematic/request-address-environmental-management-advisory-committee-speakers-card>

To: Chairperson Sedlacek, members of EMAC, and liaison Councilor Wantz
From: Michael Allen
Date: March 8, 2023
Subject: Revisit Community Climate Solutions and Lane County Announcement

The Community Climate Solutions application that I originally presented to the City Council and to EMAC was included as a proposed addition to the work plan at the city's work session on February 23rd. Thank you Councilor Wantz for promoting the benefits of this tool for the community to engage directly in climate solutions.

Learn more about Community Climate Solutions at <https://www.communityclimate.org/>

Unfortunately, after a brief discussion Councilor Wantz withdrew the proposal from consideration. City Manager Reynolds argued that EMAC has too much on its plate and not enough committee members to take on another project. My counter argument is that this resource is too valuable to let slip by. I suggest that EMAC allow non-committee members to join a subcommittee dedicated to the implementation of Community Climate Solutions.

View recording of work session on 2-23-23 starting at 1:15:35 <https://vimeo.com/801732205>

Reynolds has indicated that the work plan is a dynamic document and can be changed. I urge the EMAC to reconsider this wonderful resource and use community members on your subcommittees.

On a positive note, I'm pleased to announce that Lane County has hired Kristen Lee as a Senior Program Services Coordinator. Kristen is assigned to the Lane County Administrations' Policy Team working directly under Policy Director Steve Adams. Kristen's responsibilities include working with other entities like cities to seek out federal dollars to be directed at big projects that address climate resiliency.

I am scheduled to talk with Kristen about ways she may engage the City of Florence in her collaboration efforts. I encourage EMAC to invite her to meet directly with the committee so you can factor the city's needs and your work plans into the county's climate resiliency initiatives.

In the meantime, since I am a liaison between the Lane County Parks Advisory Committee and the Lane County Climate Action Plan I will be following the county's activities. I am most happy to bring you periodic updates of their progress.

