

CLIMATE CHANGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting

Thursday, October 16, 2019, 6:30-8:30 PM

Bainbridge Island City Hall

MINUTES

Present: Committee members Jens Boemer, Michael Cox, Gary Lagerloef, Julie Matthews, Nora Ferm Nickum, Deborah Rudnick; Council Liaison Joe Deets

On the phone: Committee member David McCaughey

Absent: Committee members Derik Broekhoff, Lara Hansen

Public/guests: James Rufo Hill, Rick Freeman, Heather Burger, Erin Hill, Gloria Saylor

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm.
 - Conflict of interest disclosures: None.
2. Minutes from the previous meeting (September 18, 2019) were approved.
3. Public comment
 - Gloria Saylor said that she has encouraged islanders to take the climate change survey via a post on the Quality Bainbridge Facebook page.
4. Friends of the Farm: Heather Burger, Executive Director, and Erin Hill, board member, came to talk about building a community food system:
 - They noted that there is a connection between industrial agriculture and climate change. It is responsible for 19% of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Food purchased on conventional grocery store shelf travels on average 1,500 miles.
 - Creating a climate-positive food system means growing, processing, and selling as much local food as possible; making local food accessible and affordable; and keeping money in our community; among other things.
 - Bainbridge Island's Comprehensive Plan mentions farms 59 times.
 - How can we reduce our carbon footprint through the food we grow, process, consume?
 - Designate a local food system coordinator within COBI, map the existing food environment, set communitywide goals, and create a plan to implement goals with key performance indicators.
 - Enact policies that support a community food system (create an agricultural resource land zoning designation; facilitate more housing for farm interns; support programming).
 - Provide funding and incentives (e.g., grants or tax credits to support innovative energy systems; funding for local farm-to-school meals; encourage landscaping with edibles at places like city parks).
5. Discussion of Sea Level Rise analysis
 - James Rufo Hill, the principal author of and photographer for this report, came to present on the results. He began the effort while serving on this Committee.
 - Key findings:
 - Most of the City's assets are not exposed to sea level rise.

- By the middle of this century, many private waterfront residences will face severe flooding, especially along Hedley Spit/Point Monroe, Manitou Beach, and Schel Chelb Estuary/Point White Drive.
 - Other vulnerable assets include the ferry terminal and maintenance facility, the Wyckoff Superfund site, Fay Bainbridge Park, and, to a lesser extent, the Winslow Wastewater Treatment Plant.
 - Accelerated bluff erosion is going to be an issue for houses and septic systems at the tops and bottoms of the bluffs.
 - Saltwater intrusion will push on the edges of the aquifer.
 - Next steps: We will forward the report to the City and request a meeting to discuss it.
6. Discussion of draft Climate Action Plan sections
- We discussed the early draft sections and adjustments to the template.
 - Timeline for next steps:
 - Lead authors will update their chapters by Oct. 23
 - Committee members send comments to chapter leads by Nov. 6
 - Lead authors update their chapters based on that feedback by Nov. 20
7. Updates
- GHG Inventory Council study session on November 19
 - Community survey has been extended to October 28
 - Community Workshops – subgroup of Mike, Nora, Julie formed to organize
 - Next Climate and Energy Forum will be on November 9, 10-11:30 am, Eagle Harbor Church – topic is carbon offsets and Committee member Derik Broekhoff is a panelist
 - PSE issued their Request for Information for community solar projects
 - The November meeting of this Committee has been rescheduled for Nov. 21
8. The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 pm.

 11/18/19
Co-Chair 11/18/19