

Climate Change Advisory Committee Minutes March 17, 2021

Present: Committee members Michael Cox, David McCaughey, Deborah Rudnick, Jens Boemer, Lara Hansen, Derik Broekhoff, Julie Matthews, Gary Lagerloef

Council Liaison: Joe Deets, Kirsten Hytopoulos

City staff: Ron Logghe, Mark Epstein

Public: Kierra Phyfer, PSE, Marcy Burkel

Jan Allen, Rolfe Phillip, and Michael Smith to speak about biodigester

5:34 pm: **Call meeting to Order**

Approve February 17 minutes

David asked for a change to the minutes to correct a statement he had made that was not correctly written. Change made by Deb and will be sent to Mike. Lara moved to approve, and David seconded. All approved.

Public Comment - none

Discussion

- Updates on sustainable transportation: Mark Epstein asked for our assistance supporting the plan when it comes out, they expect some pushback, and a culture shift is likely needed to support some of the asks. Mark encouraged us to go back and watch the presentation at City council last night on sustainable transportation. Starting to group and rank alternative programs and policies to come up with near term actions, identify gaps such as all ages and ability networks and ways to improve walk and bike-ability. April 23 they will have their next STTF/tech advisory joint meeting, those can all be watched. Lara will attend their next meeting as a liaison from CCAC. Joe indicated he's on the board of Kitsap Transit if that is helpful.
- Green building task force: Legislative healthy buildings bill did not move forward which is not good news for GBTF efforts to push forward on some of the policies around energy code, which Joe suggested may shift their work towards incentivization
- SMP: Citizen committee forming to review items like sea level rise with relevance to climate, Mike has joined. All can take the Sea Level Rise survey that is on the SMP site: <https://cityofbainbridgeisland.civilspace.io/en/projects/smp-periodic-review/engagements/sea-level-rise-flooding-survey/sections/1>
- Senior Center and Climate Checklist: initial meeting with Senior Center to discuss how the checklist might be used in the remodel, Lara suggested it will be beneficial to give a presentation to COBI staff so we can identify where this could come up across the city.

Mike has touched base with Ron about this and he has discussed with Ellen about scheduling this. Mike will also drop Peter a note about the checklist as well.

- Impact Bioenergy Presentation
 - o Joe introduced the topic regarding how Bioenergy is coming to us tonight. Joe reached back to their presentation a few years ago and reached out again in light of the CAP passing.
 - o PSE engaged Impact on Bainbridge a few years ago to do a pilot project and wrote two technical memos on creating energy with commercial sector waste, and then expanding that to include residential organic waste
 - o Jan's presentation is in the meeting materials
 - o Joe suggested we may want to take a field trip to see the Vashon system, which Jan described more fully in discussion as taking food waste only and generating liquid fertilizer, integrated with a greenhouse and food production. Got a matching grant from the state's clean energy fund, but its also an investment for them as they self-financed the remainder.
 - o With the transition in administration and public works, this may be a good time to get funding for this kind of project.
 - o Odor control is a very high priority for them, along with output products and economics.
 - o Jan spoke to storing energy- on Vashon they have low-pressure storage and also refined NG stored in smaller units. Discussed that energy storage could be an option for Bainbridge as well but difficult to speak in generalities about its exact capacity.
- Climate Action Plan Updates
 - o Still on track to put climate officer position out in second quarter
 - o Christian Berg is working on updates and is well underway with the municipal update
 - o Mike asked if we want to get the next GHG inventory update for 2021. David agreed that 2020 is likely to be anomalous for a number of reasons. Jens questions the commitment of resources and asks if we have thought carefully about frequency of updates. Gary suggested that there is merit to looking at what happened in 2020 to see what the pandemic did in terms of our inventory. Christian is already working on 2020, so that work is already underway. Derik discussed that Kitsap County and King are putting out RFPs to do GHG inventories for 2019 and 2020. We could have another conversation with Cascadia about how to improve some of the community metrics. Mike proposes that the municipal work Christian is already doing continue, and community could be delayed a bit to see what comes out of the climate officer coming on board and the larger regional efforts that we may be able to capitalize on.
 - o Web presence and outreach: Mike, Deb, Lara, and Julie have been working with Kristen Drew and have written one for COBI Connects so far. Kirsten has web page on the radar but a lot going on, and that will need the climate officer to really move forward.

- Climate Equity: joint meeting a few weeks ago with Race Equity committee. Mike has reached out a few times but nothing back yet. Joe suggested that we just gently nudge them on places where we want collaboration. Lara wants to follow up with the presenter from Portland to see if she can get more information for integrating racial equity screening tools to the climate certification checklist and will reach out to race equity committee again on this topic.
 - Mike had a good meeting with Chris Wierzbicki regarding the franchise negotiation and he wants to continue to engage with us on this.
 - Deb, Mike, and Lara will be meeting next week with park district to talk about inventory
 - BISD – conversations are on hold for now but there is definitely interest. We will be engaged with 4C Friday at BHS.
 - Funds for climate action: there is a set-aside subfund of the general fund for climate action work
 - Ron indicated that Public works is waiting for the next CIP to integrate EV-related projects
- March 24: Interfaith and climate meeting, Mike will send information around about this

7:34 Adjourn



Michael Cox, Chair 04/21/21