

**Climate Change Advisory Committee
Meeting minutes
Wednesday May 18, 2022**

Present: Committee members Michael Cox, Steve Richard, Deborah Rudnick, David McCaughey, Jens Boemer, John Kydd, Julie Mathews, Derik Broekhoff

Council Liaison: Kirsten Hytopoulos, Leslie Schneider

City staff: Autumn Salamack

Attendees: Kathleen Cronin, Marci Burkel, Kierra Phifer (PSE), MGS Schuback

No conflict of interest stated.

Approval of April minutes: moved by Steve, seconded by John, with small corrections provided to Deb, all approve minutes

Public Comment: Kathleen Cronin: climate restoration activist. Recommended a book called Climate Restoration by Peter Fiekowsky. (<https://www.rivertownbooks.com/book-page/climate-restoration-by-peter-fiekowsky-with-carole-douglis>)

5:45: Climate Officer Updates (Autumn Salamack)

- General Updates
 - Climate challenge: up to 88 hh. Now up to 11% of carbon reduction goals, which means participants are reporting actions taken
 - Mobility for all grant application- 2 EVs as a car share program with 2 charging stations, made available to nonprofits serving underserved populations, provide for those who need, applications were due May 10. Hear back maybe by July 1.
 - RFP – evaluating GHG emissions reductions potential associated with Scenario 2 of sustainable transport plan and looking at additional policy options that might get us above and beyond initial goals. Working on securing contract with Fehr and Peers for this work. Mike asked if Autumn is looking for any help on this – not currently, but maybe once work is underway.
 - Electrical assessments at operations and maintenance and City Hall for EV charging infrastructure. We have our first EV for city arriving this summer to police dept; looking at 5-7 more for the 23/24 request, focus on light and medium duty EVs.
 - 250K allocated by ARPA to increase resilience of community disaster hubs. Completed feasibility for evaluating solar panels and energy storage systems for 3d min power supply. Consultant is pulling together recommendations for sites that look like the best fit.
 - Talking about water conservation and smart water use- focus for next issue of COBI connects.
 - Outreach coordinator letter signed for onboarding help with climate challenge and waste reduction ordinance, hope to start June 22.

- Thanks to Julie, Mike, and David for helping staff farmer's market table.
- Solid waste ad hoc committee: only focused on implementation, so planning and other components that are broader based and might benefit from CCAC involvement aren't their current scope. Right now, it's the business ambassador group.
- Sea Level Rise- Peter Best submitted a grant but we weren't selected for funding, he heard back that maybe there is some NOAA funding, we keep poking them and Peter is still hopeful maybe there is some funding; if not we will apply CAP funds to initiate that work.
- Technical assistance for 100% renewable energy- anticipate hearing in mid-June.
- Biodigester: no new conversations on that topic, possibly update by June meeting
- Green Building Task Force: not aware of plans to resurrect that but can bring up with new planning director
- Rideshare app under development? Autumn can update this group in the future.
- 2023/2024 CAP Workplan and Budget (attached)
 - Autumn would like input in next two meetings in terms of what we'd like to put in budget request for 2023/2024 workplan. We want to look at how to make an amount part of a consistent budget ask. Drafting final proposed budget in late September, may undergo review by us in October. Next month review original list of priority actions and look at autumn's list of updates based on what we've done to date, what we have started that will carry over, and what we have identified as important work at the staff level to move forward. What actions do we need to really start working on in the near term in terms of preparing for vulnerabilities?
 - Not all the original allocation is yet committed, but much of it will be allocated coming up. Full amount is budgeted; About \$110K contracted so far, but more to come.
 - Steve is noticing the 25% reduction by 2025, is that in the thought process of the upcoming workplan? Autumn thinks it'd be useful for us to look at the waterfall graph and contributions to GHG reductions. The community climate challenge could currently give us a few percent contribution. PSE's energy shift should contribute to this.
 - Jens and Deb both emphasized focus on practical opportunities like the green energy fund idea, as well as weatherization, green building task force, knowing that electricity is a big part of the inventory pie. Mike is happy to try to chair a group of us to start thinking about this- have a working paper on this already as a starting point. Let Mike know. Jens is interested, as is David. Julie can assist.
 - Can we fund local efforts to offset carbon for community flights, etc? Autumn can explore whether we have a voluntary reduction fund, need to think about how that would work? Not something we are aware of other communities doing?
 - Carbon offsets for alleviating poverty, cotap.org – possibly use that as a link to funding local efforts. Mike reminded us that Derik is our man on this question of offsets.
 - Can we get more granular data on EV ownership on the Island? We can get Department of licensing information on EV ownership; we should be able to track this. We do have that data from a few years ago from an intern who did this work for us, and Mike will send that document back around.

6:30: Updates

- June meeting in-person (David)- discussion around whether CCAC members are comfortable coming back to in-person. We are encouraged to reach out to council and manager on this issue.
- Groundwater Management Plan (Deb)- Christian Berg presented to advisory group on monitoring network, making decisions on how to add to the network

- Meeting with other committees (Mike)- opportunity for more interactions among committees? Particularly ETAC and planning commission. Staff should think through what this might mean in terms of frequency or technical content of such discussions. Feeling that more conversations between these groups could be informative and helpful.
- WSF Ideas (Mike) – there are optics of that need to be considered, and questions around whether it would encourage updates. No increase in fare is one, maybe priority loading for EVs, but optics are a concern in terms of this being a benefit to folks with means that perhaps don't need these kinds of incentives. We need to be very cognizant of equity issues. Mike will start a draft with a recommendation for council.
- Ferry idling is also a concern? How about that issue and its enforcement?
- Other: PSE has submitted their filing with WUTC for some new tariffs to accelerate transportation electrification programs, a rate that provides additional funding for electrical charging infrastructure, help with fleet analysis.
<https://www.utc.wa.gov/casedocket/2022/220294/docsets>
- Distributive energy and resource pilot for the island? Autumn will ask.
- Appointments for committee made June 14

7:07. Adjourn – Moved by Julie, seconded by John, adjourned

Materials

1. April minutes
2. 2023/2024 CAP Workplan and Budget
3. WSF Ideas from Lara Hansen

David McCaughey, Chair

Date