

Climate Change Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday September 21, 2022

Present: Committee members Mike Cox (vice chair), Deborah Rudnick (secretary), John Kydd, Julie Matthews, Kevin Thomas

Council Liaison: Leslie Schneider

City staff: Autumn Salamack, climate officer

Attendees: Kirsten Hytopoulos, Clarissa San Diego, REAC and citizen

Call meeting to Order 5:38 pm

Modify Agenda: John wants to add a query to the end – COP attendance in November, does the City want John to make queries of other attendees, race equity in particular

Mike: Add school board and rotary

Deb would like to pass the Secretarial baton

Conflict of Interest Disclosure: none

Approve August 17th minutes – no modifications. Motion to approve John, seconded by Julie, all approve

Public Comment – Clarissa thanked the committee for our work, not here on behalf of REAC, but as a resident, but open to questions

Climate Officer Updates and Questions (Autumn Salamack)

Looking for volunteers this Saturday and Oct 1 – day of preparedness, free ice cream and t-shirts  
– **CCAC members please sign up with Autumn- 2hrs.**

EV implementation: Next Thursday public hearing at 6pm with planning commission to talk about public charging – EV capable, ready, installations for certain types of non-residential new development and expansion projects (5% or more). Increase requirements for the state minimum and asking to have those implemented earlier, in January, than the requirement of July, and expand requirements for EV-ready. Some incentives proposed including for installing DC fast charging. Please attend if interested. Mike is curious if this will impact developments underway- Autumn can ask planning staff and good to ask Thursday.

Jan 1 food retail businesses and lodging will have to adhere to new waste reduction policies

- including no single-use products in plastic, and takeaway in home compostable (bio-based, third-party certified, no fluorinated additives) materials.
- They are preparing for waste ambassador visits, to include example materials, waiver requests, test some products etc. Still no downtown composting that can address takeaway that is disposed of downtown.
- Feedback is that most retailers are supportive of effort and need to figure out how to do it and what it costs. Island School and T&C have taken the waste reduction pledge.
- Leslie asked if display in Chamber of Commerce could be more eye-catching.

- Clarissa pointed out that home-compostables do not always jive with ethnic food ingredients in terms of durability and taste effects; Autumn concurred they heard this feedback.

New Climate Smart Resources: climate smart leaders' recognition, lesson plans, piloting with a 4<sup>th</sup> grade class as part of an after-school series.

-Webinar on right plant right place hosted by city video is now available:

<https://www.bainbridgewa.gov/1339/Sequester-carbon>

-Will find out if we are invited to submit a full app for funding for emergency battery

-ETIP moving forward, close to final SOW. Fire school district, WSDOT, ferries, Bainbridge Prepares. Island-wide resource assessment is being considered that would identify all the pathways. Final SOW hopefully in October.

Discussion of Open Public Meeting Act (Deb/Julie – attached)

Motion to send CCAC memo to council – moved by John, seconded by Kevin. Mike asked and Leslie answered that it should be sent to CM, Autumn, Mayor, and Deputy which **Mike** will do. **Leslie** can bring it up with City Manager as well. Unanimously passed by CCAC.

Carbon Sequestration BI (Deb – see attached) – have a discussion around the value or importance of trees, helping frame this question of offset. The fundamental story here is that you can't really "offset" our emissions, we have to work on reductions, and really we don't and cant offset burning fossil fuels that have been created over many millions of years with above-ground carbon that is on a decades-to-century life cycle.

Inflation Reduction Act (Rep. Kilmer's office invited) – have asked to have a few of his staff at our meeting, asked if we could come up with some questions – **Mike** can send around a request for questions, Mike's idea is about how COBI competes for/pursues funding: it informs then and it informs us

## Updates

- ETIP (Kevin/David/Steve) – will have update at October meeting, moving forward. Bob Bergquist, govt liaison from PSE, conduit to others who can respond to date requests. Jens expressed an interest in joining this group and will be happy to look at a draft SOW.
- Leslie is trying to initiate some questions on community aggregation of renewables and is reaching out to talk with Climate Solutions
- Groundwater Management Plan (Deb) – worked on first four chapters initial review, lots of discussion around how to present and organize the information.
- Sustainable Transportation Technical Advisory Team (Mike) – Derik Broekhoff is joining that group, meets once every few months. Leslie is interested in indicator metrics to show how we are making progress towards our goals. Ex can we track how many kids are being dropped off at school? And a tourism/visitors metric- can we count tourists coming with or without cars. Fehr and Peers is looking at Scenario 2 implementation and is helping us figure out how to identify VMT and non-motorized travel, establish a baseline for implementation of Scenario 2, and a better estimate of VMT that will help us with our ongoing GHG inventory updates. There is a budget for Fehr & Peers to visit the CCAC and other interested folks to present.

-Climate Cafes (Mike - attached) - **please register** if interested

School Board: reached out to three board members- climate plan for the school district? **Deb** can join **Mike**, to talk about what a climate action plan might look like for the school district. Hyla might be a good model.

Rotary – Mike is part of the new Environment Committee, Autumn and Hannah will be visiting. They do a lot of capital project investment, like EV investments. Jens - Electric bikes program? Island. Talk to Greg Dronkert about such an idea. **Jens** can draft and **Mike** can send email to Greg.

Jens: question about the clean energy and building fund – 23/24 COBI is starting with a sub-fund to go specifically for working with low-income residents to transition to energy efficient heat pumps. Equitable distribution of clean energy technology focus. Jens asked if they've looked at public-private partnerships; the challenge is what the right fit is for the City as the lead vs a nonprofit that COBI contributes funds to? A larger conversation.

Role of CCAC going forward (All – BIMC Chapter 2.37 attached)

Ellen will join us in October for a more extensive conversation. Coming out of the budgeting process will be a list of projects. Need to work with Autumn on the actual work we can accomplish with that budget. Possibly a role for interfacing/partnering with other community organizations. Helping organize public events, workshops, webinars. John: social practices, behavioral shifts, climate justice issues, all need to be front and centered. Leslie: don't underestimate this groups advice to council.

Deb wants to turn over secretarial position – Clarissa recommended co-secretaries could be an option?

Adjourn 7:30 pm.

#### Materials

1. August minutes
2. Open Public Meeting Request Memo
3. Carbon Sequestration – Back of the Envelope
4. Climate Cafes
5. CCAC Role – BIMC Chapter 2.37



Co-Chair



Date