Climate Change Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2022

Action Minutes

Meeting called to order at 5:34 PM by Mike Cox.

Roll call: Jens, Kevin, Julie, Steve, Ellen, Autumn, Clarissa, Derek, Kristin

Modify agenda? None. But shifting Dana to the first on the agenda.

Conflict of interest disclosure? None.

Motion to approve the Sept 21 minutes by Julie: seconded. (At the end of the meeting, Jens asks that we amend the minutes to show that he was present at the last meeting. Mike moved to approve and it was seconded and approved by the committee.)

Public comments: Clarissa San Diego. On behalf of COBI Race Equity Advisory Committee. Responding to a request from Autumn and Public Works Director Chris for guidance. Clarissa proposes a proactive outreach program in English and Spanish using racial equity toolkit. This was outlined in a letter to the Committee. Would like us to take the letter under consideration as we explore possibilities for recommending policies.

Action Item. Mike recommends that we review the letter and revisit this with Clarissa at our next session. Committee members agreed to review this in advance of our next session in November.

Dana Rollison from Derek Kilmer's staff. Provides an introduction of herself: Senior Advisor for Internal Resources. And provides a context for where the IRA currently sits. Agencies are currently trying to sort out how to utilize the money allocated to them. Dana mentions the rebate and tax credit calculator from the White House. Dana answers a series of questions from those in the meeting. Also shares links from Evergreen Action (https://www.evergreenaction.com/documents/The-Climate-Impact-of-the-IRA.pdf) and the US Senate (https://www.democrats.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/summary_of_the_energy_security_and_climate_change_investments_in_the_inflation_reduction_act_of_2022.pdf).

Kevin mentions the IRA calculator from Rewiring America (https://www.rewiringamerica.org/app/ira-calculator).

Action Item. Kevin to do additional investigation into when rebates for IRA will become available to island residents.

Autumn provides updates. Headway on waste reduction regulations and on outreach regarding new plastics ordinances - working with the Chamber to create graphics and online communications. Have put out a request for bids to create a comprehensive plan to electrify the city vehicles. Have pushed ahead with outreach to BI schools and have developed curricula and lesson plans; connected with Ordway; Hannah is utilizing the climate curricula attached to Climate Smart Bainbridge as part of sessions with a set of fourth-graders.

Exploring possibilities for e-bike sharing. Have an Urban Fellow who is working to enter city building assets into Portfolio Manager to track energy use, and she is developing a survey to solicit feedback from the community.

Action Item. Autumn will share the link to a draft of the survey.

Mike mentions that Greg Dunkirk is starting an EV sharing program. Autumn continues: working with COBI Planning Commission on plans for making new construction EV-ready for charging. And she talks about next steps on Disaster Energy Hubs.

Mike mentions his work with Rotary and their interest in capital projects like the Disaster Energy Hubs.

Ellen raises the question about ongoing role of the CCAC now that the plan has been finished and Autumn is in place. Continuing to discuss how we support Autumn, how she can use us, and what role we can play.

Action Item. Mike raises the possibility about forming a subgroup of the committee to make our interactions swifter and more efficient. Mike asks Ellen about the formal letter that the CCAC sent to Council to consider if there are ways for us to revise how we communicate and collaborate as a committee in relation to the Open Public Meetings Act. Ellen says the Council has not had time to assess. The plan is to address this in November.

Kevin talks about working on a draft of a document to define a potential green energy fund to help accelerate actions island residents could take to lower emissions. Autumn and Steve press for clearer definitions of what problem the fund is trying to solve.

Action Item. Mike and Kevin agree to take another pass at the draft document for the fund and to try to sharpen/clarify the argument in those areas. Jens and Mike talk about perhaps forming a smaller group to work on this.

John K, CCAC member, is going to COP in Egypt. Last time he went, he got a letter from the city saying who he was and saying that he could act as a sort of emissary from the city as he talks with mayors and other COP attendees. Joe Deets asked the committee to confirm that this is a good idea. The committee agreed that it is a good idea.

Action Item. John will work with Joe on the letter. We are hoping that John will do a report on his experience at COP like the one he did after the last COP he attended.

Mike raises the issue of who will serve as co-secretary. Derek and Kevin volunteered to assist Deb.

Action Item. Going forward, Derek and Kevin will split responsibilities for capturing the minutes and finalizing them before the following meeting of the committee.

Jens asks Autumn for an update on discussion with PSE. Autumn talks about the status of the conversations about the partnership agreement and the franchise agreement. She says that PSE has hired a new person who would be our liaison and that that person will be in place in the coming weeks and then should be able to start attending committee meetings.

Action Item. Jens and Mike discuss what PSE has been touting in terms of progress on meeting upcoming state mandates for clean energy. Mike suggests that we invite them to our next meeting,

Steve asks Autumn for an update on the status of the work plan we reviewed earlier in the summer. Autumn explains how she is working with the Council on budgeting for the respective items and what is realistic to do and in what order.

Jens asks Autumn for an update on ETIPP. She explains that there is a good scope of work identified.

Action Item. Jens asks Autumn to send him a draft of the ETIPP scope of work document so that he can review.

Mike signs the revised minutes.

Mike adjourns the meeting at 7:35 PM.

11/16/22

Co-Chair Date