

Minutes

Juneau Commission on Sustainability
Wednesday, June 26, 2019
Downtown Library, Large Conference Room
12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

I. **CALL TO ORDER:** @ 12:05 by Chair Duff Mitchell. Commissioners present:, Jim Powell., Christine Woll, John Smith, Jim Rehfeldt., Lura Leahu, and Steve Behnke. Assembly liaison present: Michelle Hale. CBJ liaison: Tim Felstead.

I. **AGENDA CHANGES:**

Action taken: Agenda approved.

II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion made: Christine makes a motion to approve the meeting minutes for May 1, 2019; Jim seconds.

Action taken: Meeting minutes for May 1, 2019 approved.

II. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** No member of general public spoke to JCOS.

III. **ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

a. Annual Report Approval

i. **Motion made:** Christine makes a motion to approve the annual report; Steve seconds.

ii. **Action taken:** Annual Report Approved

b. Updated recommendation: Implementation of the Juneau Renewable Energy Strategy” (or "Filling in the Four Boxes”) – Steve

Steve has a draft of recommendations on implementation of the JRES. Some of these recommendations have talked about before and reflect previous recommendations, some are new. This document is intended to help the Assembly fill in the pieces, as per Michelle’s reflections. Given that there is nothing that anyone has done to move forward on the JRES holistically, this can help it move it forward, particularly because there is a \$250,000 CIP that the assembly has appropriated for JRES implementation, but not a clear path forward on how it will be spent. The complete new thing is recommending that the CBJ ask AEL&P to follow through on the commitments it made during the HydroOne discussions, to provide transparent public information about electricity supplies, costs, and plans

Tim asked if JCOS made any recommendations regarding the HydroOne discussions. The answer was no. It was clarified that this recommendation was for the city to ask AEL&P for this information, not JCOS.

Duff said that he has some edits that he would pass along. Christine recommended that the document cite where the recommendations had come from (ie., when from JRES, when from a newer action or document, when a completely new idea).

Michelle asked for clarity on whether the request to AEL&P really came from CBJ, or from JCOS; the answer was yes. Jim R. suggested that it could be JCOS’s responsibility to be seeking this

information. Michelle said that she has made the point to the assembly, as part of the dock electrification discussion, that it is important to understand the impact on the grid, but there is a much bigger picture to contend with.

Michelle relayed that this is a good memo but it is long, and it would be important to have a sense of the priorities, and make it easy for the assembly and public works. Steve asked whether we should focus on the CIP or be more general. Michelle reminded the group that there is perception that this group wants it all, and they want it yesterday. Jim Powell suggested that we use a high, medium, low ranking system. Tim suggests using the prioritized list within the JRES, which has even more specificity than this memo. Michelle reiterates that, as an example, there will be another December retreat, and specificity will help get the group focused.

Future action requested: Steve agrees to revise memo, and provide it prior to the next official meeting, with intent to have a version to Michelle and Michael by July 22, for the July 28 public works meeting.

c. Sustainability Session Dates – Tim

Future action requested: Tim or Duff to send Christine dates of Assembly availability.

For suggested topics, Duff mentioned Lisa Daughtery and Juneau Composts, and a solid waste update. Tim suggested speaking with CCTHITA (Kenneth Weitzel) about their Climate Adaptation report.

Jim Powell reported that on September 13, Katherine Hayhoe, who is an evangelical climate physicist, will be speaking in Juneau at a variety of venues, including UAS (4pm). It is being organized by Stuart Cohen and Interfaith Power and Light.

Future action requested: Jim to reach out to Stuart about a flyer for the full day of event; send to JCOS for further advertisement.

Tim sent out dates – Solid Waste, Lisa Daughtery,

d. Discussion on open filming for Sustainability Sessions – Duff

Duff thinks we should be filming sustainability sessions, but this is an ongoing convo with the city. Tim suggests someone should go talk to the city managers office as he has already spent too much time through other channels. Steve suggests we do two separate tracks – put in a formal request through the city managers office, and ask others to provide the service, such as Renewable Juneau, or Alaska Municipal League.

e. Air Source Heat Pump Program

Steve gave an update on the proposed HeatSmart program, which is designed to encourage greater adoption of heat pumps in Juneau providing consumers with services and financing, and compiling data. Just waiting on funding, hopefully from CBJ.

f. Outreach

Christine reported that the website has gone live. She asked how best to get feedback from everyone. Everyone agreed both a reminder email for comments, and a worksession would be helpful.

Future action requested: Christine to send out e-mail reminder to provide edits/comments; Tim and Duff to find some work session time for this activity.

IV. Information Items

a. Items for Assembly Action

Michelle reports that summer not a good time for fast action from the city, so anything we can do to plan in advance is good.

b. Committee Reports

i. Outreach

Steve reports that there is something about compostable bags that could be shared through social media.

V. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioners agreed to change the July meeting from July 3 to the 10th.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting Adjourned 12:55

Submitted,
Christine Woll, Secretary for Meeting