

Minutes

Juneau Commission on Sustainability
Wednesday, September 4, 2019
Downtown Library, Large Conference Room
12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

- I. **CALL TO ORDER: @ 12:03.** Commissioners present: Duff Mitchell (Chair), Gretchen Keiser, Steve Behnke, Lisa Daugherty, Jim Powell, Ed King and John Smith III (phone). Assembly liaison present: Michelle Hale.
CBJ liaison: Tim Felstead.
Members of the public: Mary Alice McKeen and Angie Mendbayar (Alaska Interfaith Power and Light)
- II. **AGENDA CHANGES:** None
- III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes for July 10, 2019 and August 7, 2019.

ACTION TAKEN: Motion to approve Gretchen Keiser. Second Steve Behnke. No objections.

- IV. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** Mary Alice McKeen provide formal invitation to JCOS members for an upcoming Climate Change talk by Dr Katherine Heyhoe. Tim Felstead informed JCOS that the events had been publically noticed by CBJ and were open to the public so Commissioners were free to attend. Angie Mendbayar informed the Commission of a Climate Change in Alaska conference

V. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Sustainability Awards

Jim Powell provided thoughts on a CBJ Sustainability Awards. CBJ would be the awarding entity not JCOS. Jim Powell will draft a white paper and was thinking there could be an award for the five domains of sustainability - ***Environmental, Technological, Economic, Public policy, Socio-cultural.***

Lisa Daugherty wondered if a green certification approach might be an easier approach. Other cities have implemented this. Ed King mentioned Fairbanks had a Green Star (recycling and waste reduction) certification.

Duff Mitchell said that former Assembly member Kate Troll had mentioned the idea of awards when on the Assembly. Michelle Halle would like to mention the idea of public recognition to the Assembly. Jim Powell requested that it be stressed that this is very early in the thinking.

ACTION NEEDED: Jim Powell to submit paper outlining how the awards/certification might work.

2. Climate Change Impacts and Indicators

Jim Powell said there was still interest in doing the report despite financial constraints at UAS. \$5,000 contract with CBJ to contribute to the effort will be provided out of the JRES money. The report will be an update of the previous 2007 report with latest data and improving readability.

Lisa Daugherty enquired about the history of the Climate Impacts report. Jim Powell gave background that it was an intuitive of the Mayor Bothello. Jim Powell suggested Whitehorse was a good example and that indicators would be a recommendation of the report not necessarily an outcome. Michelle Hale mentioned that adaptation in particular was of interest.

Duff Mitchell and Steve Behnke suggested that getting local fuel data was crucial and a sub-committee should explore this again.

3. CPACE

Tim Felstead informed Commission that CBJ had been approached by Consultants working for AEA. Consultants are going to provide recommendations on how CPACE could be rolled out in Alaska. The loan to perform energy improvements is passed to the local municipality and recuperated as a special assessment with the property tax. CBJ were not dedicating time to this at the moment but would wait to see what consultants recommended. Manager's Office were aware that JCOS were interested in a watching brief and may interact in the process. Alec Mesdag from AEL&P had been speaking with the consultants in order to reflect the Juneau market.

4. Plastic recycling

Duff Mitchell had been approached by Wade Bryson on this topic. Gretchen Keiser mentioned there were concerns regarding PFAS on compostable food containers and that micro plastics are a concern.

Lisa Daugherty mentioned that the Haines Fair bought containers in bulk for food vendors to use.

ACTION NEEDED: Lisa Daugherty and Ed King were interested in exploring this issue more.

5. Alaska Heat\$mart

Steve Behnke representing Heat\$mart attended an Assembly Committee of the Whole to request funding from CBJ. More discussions with CBJ were expected in the coming months.

6. Energy Efficiency Sustainability session

Group discussed how a session could keep JRES momentum. Michelle Hale mentioned that the Assembly received a constructive letter from Margo Waring thanking the Assembly for their efforts to date.

ACTION NEEDED: Steve Behnke said he would do more work on this.

VI. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Items for Assembly Action

Michelle Hale had nothing relevant to JCOS to report.

2. Committee Reports

- a. Outreach: Covered in meeting
- b. JRES Implementation, Including CBJ Energy Management: Covered in meeting
- c. Indicators: Covered in meeting

VII. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Duff Mitchell wanted permission to thank those who had provided a letter of support for the Low No grants.

No objections.

ACTION NEEDED: Tim Felstead to provide contact details or copies of letters of support.

Duff Mitchell mentioned the EV round-up on Sept 21st at the District Heating parking lot.

Lisa Daugherty questioned why tour buses had 'biodiesel' stickers on them. Group thought that they were from a past life in the lower 48 and that no-one in town was selling or making biodiesel.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting Adjourned 1:15.

**Submitted,
Tim Felstead, Secretary for Meeting**