

**Minutes**  
**CBJ Commission on Sustainability**  
**Wednesday, February 20, 2008, 5:00 pm**  
**Downtown Library, Large Conference Room**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Chair Sarah Lewis at 5:05 PM

Present: Sandy Boyce, Bob Doll, Sarah Lewis, Dan Miller, Sally Schlichting (left at 6:00), Gayle Wood, Eva Varadi-Bornstein, Jonathan Kamler, Dan Miller

Absent: , Catherine Fritz, Carol Anderson (resignation tendered), Rick Wolk

Staff: Maria Gladziszewski

Public: John Ryan (KTOO), Jamie Karnik, Bill James

II. AGENDA CHANGES

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Minutes of February 6, 2008 meeting.  
Approval postponed until next regular meeting.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Bill James spoke about disposable bags, how they are bad for the environment and oceans. Paper bags pile up in the landfill, plastic bags are worse. Brought up idea of banning plastic bags and/or encouraging people to move to reusable cloth and canvas bags. Use recent no-smoking ban as a model for banning plastic bags.
1. Bob Doll asked what would appeal to the public most. Maria suggested a bag exchange program or biodegradable or other types of bags as ideas.
- B. Jamie Karnik mentioned a friend of his, Jeremy Hansen, who is on the board of the Chamber of Commerce and who has been looking at green business issues. Jamie agreed to contact Jeremy Hansen and connect him with Sarah Lewis.

V. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Standing subcommittee structure and activities
1. General JCOS Subcommittee Procedures  
Sarah Lewis submitted a written proposal for subcommittee procedures. Discussion ensued. Goals of subcommittees were discussed, including committees carrying out business items and issues of the Commission as well as developing position papers and ideas to bring back to the Commission for approval.  
  
Maria talked about the need for a system to keep track of subcommittee meetings, including ways to post subcommittee members, agendas and meeting notes and

put everything on the CBJ website as the JCOS official website. Maria suggested each committee set up regular meeting dates and cancel when meetings change, which is easier than posting individual meetings.

Sarah said there must be a majority of the subcommittee commission members (as opposed to public members) present to conduct any public meeting, or the meeting must be canceled. Thus recommended a minimum of 3 COS members on each subcommittee, so there will be fewer cancellations.

Commission adopted proposal on subcommittee procedures. Sandy Boyce objected to term "subcommittee"

2. City Operations Subcommittee changes

Sarah then went on to item A.2., talking about how the City Operations subcommittee should be disbanded as an official JCOS subcommittee, as the City Manager has taken charge of sustainability practices within CBJ operations. The city is now moving forward as they would on any other kind of project or idea under the City Manager, and remaining as a subcommittee of the JCOS would only slow that process. Discussion ensued, including the idea that this was a positive development.

Bob Doll mentioned that the JCOS should remain aware of what is happening within the city, and act as a filter and supporter for ideas that the City Manager or others bring to the Assembly.

Maria proposed officially disbanding the City Operations subcommittee, and establish Sarah Lewis as JCOS liaison to city efforts. Motion passed. Eva suggested that liaison reports be officially added to future JCOS agendas, which was agreed upon.

B. Filling the Secretary Position

Sarah Lewis mentioned that the mayor suggested members of the public be encouraged to act as note takers for JCOS, as a way to engage the public and possible future JCOS members.

Discussion ensued. Maria G. said that there still must be an official Secretary position within the JCOS, who could delegate note taking to the public but still holds the position, which must be filled by a JCOS member.

Bob Doll motioned to appoint a "minutes taker" from JCOS applicant pool, and to rotate the Secretary position every three months. Motion passed, with the following people filling it in 2008:

Jan-Mar Dan Miller  
Apr-Jun Eva Varadi-Bornstein  
Jul-Sep Gayle Wood  
Oct-Dec Bob Doll

Sarah suggested that Jamie Karnik join the table and take notes for the remainder of the meeting. This was agreed upon.

VI. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. ICLEI Programs

Sarah Lewis and Maria G. passed around materials from the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI). Maria mentioned that CBJ is already a member of ICLEI and that there are many resources available, including opportunities for online training.

Discussion ensued, and Homer Climate Action Plan was passed around as one example of an Alaska community working through ICLEI.

Sandy Boyce asked if training would be available to JCOS members, which Maria confirmed as available.

Sarah Lewis proposed that the JCOS pursued one of the four ICLEI programs and tasking the energy subcommittee with pursuing further.

Sally S and Eva expressed a desire for discussions to be broader than just energy, and that the JCOS should be looking at ICLEI and also beyond just emissions like CO<sub>2</sub>.

Dan mentioned the importance of picking single things to focus on, and suggested all JCOS members take the next ICLEI training on 2/26-27. Maria said that interested JCOS members should contact her if interested in this.

Sarah Lewis asked which subcommittees the JCOS thought should look further into ICLEI.

Bob Doll suggested that ICLEI programs be put on the next JCOS agenda as an Action Item, and that subcommittees could research ICLEI programs further and bring ideas to the next meeting. This was agreed upon by all.

B. Items up for Assembly action

Maria G. mentioned that the next Assembly meeting will have proposed changes to the city commercial passenger regulations to include Pedi-cabs. Maria suggested that JCOS members could attend the meeting and support the Pedi-cabs as human-powered transportation if such an opportunity/need arose. The Energy and transportation committees were tasked with looking into further.

Bob Doll asked for an update on solid waste actions within the city. Maria is on the solid waste team at the city and said they are talking to the waste people about what the city wants and how contracts could look moving forward.

C. KTOO program on March 24

Sarah Lewis has spoken with Jeff Brown at KTOO about possible sustainability programs on KTOO. Original thoughts had been on a Juneau Afternoon, but shifted to Focus on the Community, a self-moderated show that airs on Monday evenings when the Assembly is not meeting. Sarah brought up for discussion to make sure the JCOS was on board with the idea of moderating a Focus on the Community show about sustainability. The JCOS agreed this was a good idea to pursue, and Sarah will put together an agenda and list of possible guests for such a show and add this show to the next JCOS agenda for discussion and possible action.

D. Committee reports

There was limited time at this point in the meeting, thus only a couple of subcommittees

were touched on. Other committees agreed that a report was not needed at this time, except for the following:

1. Waste/recycling

The waste and recycling committee mentioned they could look into the plastic bags issue, and Sally Schlichting and other JCOS members also expressed interest in this issue. Sarah mentioned that ideas should be brought to a future JCOS meeting, and the waste and recycling committee agreed to hold a meeting to discuss plastic bags.

2. Outreach

A possible Sustainable Juneau blog – [sustainablejuneau.blogspot.com](http://sustainablejuneau.blogspot.com) has been started, as a place to put ideas and links. The committee agreed to work on this blog site and bring back more details to the next JCOS meeting.

VII. NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Bob Doll mentioned the League of Women voters would have some sustainability questions on their upcoming survey. Question #3 was mentioned specifically for people to review if interested.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Next regular meeting scheduled for March 5, 2008, 5:00 PM, at the Downtown Library, large conference room.
- B. Meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm.