

**Minutes – approved 6/4/08**  
**Juneau Commission on Sustainability**  
**Wednesday, April 23, 2008, 5:00 pm**  
**224 City Hall**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Chair Sarah Lewis at: 5:06 PM

Present: Eva Varadi Bornstein, Sandy Boyce, Bob Doll, Catharine Fritz, Dave Hanna, Jonathan Kamler, Dan Miller, Sally Schlichting, Rick Wolk, Gayle Wood

Staff Liaison: Maria Gladziszewski

Public: Mayor Bruce Botelho, Sue Schrader (SEACC), John Ryan (KTOO), Jim Powell, Beth Kertula, Margaret O’Neal (JEDC)

II. AGENDA CHANGES

A. Addition of Sustainable Design Assessment Teams (SDAT) motion to Action Items.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes of past meetings – approval postponed to next meeting

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- A. Mayor Bruce Botelho – Mayor sees the current emergency as temporary, but it creates an opportunity for the Commission to take a leadership role in helping Juneau develop a more permanent energy conservation mindset. He informed the Commission about a Juneau Electricity Crisis Outreach Working Group meeting held 4/22/2008. The purpose of this group is to develop an outreach plan with a focus on individuals and groups most vulnerable. To assist in the outreach effort, he asked the Commission to plan a community forum for information sharing in a face to face format. He would like a gathering of social service agencies that can offer help, banks and credit unions and informational sources for energy conservation. The forum would also provide an opportunity for information sharing among content providers.
- B. SEACC – Sue Schrader offered SEACC’s help in the upcoming forum. SEACC is putting together a list of best practices in energy conservation.
- C. Juneau Economic Development Council – Margaret O’Neal informed the Commission about a finance meeting in conjunction with the Outreach Working Group effort. All banks and credit unions are willing to work with their credit worthy clients. Ideas coming out of the finance meeting are to use some of the

city's emergency funds for loans to AELP or to help banks to help customers. Also, financial institutions can offer manpower to AELP to work with customers. The financial need of customers needs to be known before a response can be developed.

## V. ACTION ITEMS

A. Mayor's Request: Organize a community conference to address current energy crisis – A motion was made for the Sustainability Commission to move forward with organizing a forum to address the current community crisis. Motion passed with unanimous consent.

1. Conference Planning – Date chosen was May 10<sup>th</sup>. It was suggested that two tracks were needed. One for what individuals can do. Several categories of content were identified: social services, financial, vendors of energy saving products, energy saving tips, long term ways to help people stay with an energy savings mindset when crisis is over. Other ideas included having booths for AELP, banks and credit unions to have information on revolving lines of credit, working with lenders on loans for energy efficient appliances, and educational programs and panel discussions. Concern was expressed that a door to door effort may be the way to reach vulnerable groups such as the elderly. It was felt that rotary groups in conjunction with social services groups are the best mechanism for this effort.

The second track is for small businesses. Experts need to work with small business owners, apartment owners, restaurant owners, and day care providers, businesses who cannot pass on higher costs to customers or tenants. Non-profits are in this category also. Margaret O'Neal offered that JEDC can help find experts to be speakers.

A motion was made to request staff support continue to be provided to commission while Maria is out of town in order to get this event underway. Motion passed with unanimous consent.

2. Identify resources (people, information)

Rick will work with Margaret O'Neal to develop financial resources.

Sarah will coordinate social services

Sally will handle energy saving tips and products.

Dan will coordinate information on long term energy saving building practices.

Jonathan will coordinate information on long term alternative energy options.

Eva will work with Gayle on a panel discussion.

3. Outreach materials (handouts etc) – One suggestion was to send information home with kids through the school system.

B. Commission Goals (continuation of April 12 Retreat topic) - postponed to next meeting.

C. Bike to Work Week Challenge – postponed to next meeting

D. SDAT Motion – That the Sustainability Commission prepare an application for the CBJ to the American Institute of Architects (AIA) for the inclusion of Juneau in its SDAT program for 2009, focusing on municipal energy production, distribution and consumption.

1. Discussion: Bob brought the motion before the Commission because the current situation is a model for when we don't have a sustainable system in a community. He recommends that we submit a proposal to work with the SDAT team to examine the current situation and find long term solutions based on what we can control and what we can't. Catherine felt that the crisis gives us a good chance to get a grant and suggested that we ask them for 2008 funds instead of waiting for 2009 funds. She advised that the SDAT is for architectural projects so we need to fit our proposal to this type of grant. We also need to get the support of the local AIA section. Bob added that the AIA will fund the first \$15,000 of a project and the community is expected to contribute the remainder, including a \$5000 cash contribution. He would like to get this funding request before the assembly. We need to get this proposal together in the next month. The SDAT subcommittee was expanded to include Sally, Catherine, Bob, Rick and Jonathan.

2. Motion was passed unanimously.

VI. INFORMATION ITEMS – postponed to next meeting

VII. NON-AGENDA ITEMS - none

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A. Meeting adjourned at 7:05pm.