

CLIMATE CHANGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting

Monday, January 27, 2020

MINUTES

Present: Committee members Jens Boemer, Derik Broekhoff, Michael Cox, Lara Hansen, Gary Lagerloef, Julie Matthews, David McCaughey, Nora Ferm Nickum, Deborah Rudnick; Council Liaisons Joe Deets and Kirsten Hytopoulos

City staff: Ellen Schroer, Deputy City Manager

Public/guests/observers: Gloria Saylor, Rick Freeman, Ron Peltier, Maradel Gale
City Council Member Rasham Nassar

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.
 - Conflict of interest disclosure: Jens Boemer reminded everyone of his standard statement (see past meeting minutes) – his company works with PSE in various ways.
2. Minutes from the previous meeting (December 18, 2019) were approved.
3. Public Comment
 - No public comment.
4. Updates
 - Monday, Feb. 3: Joint Study Session—UAC and CCAC with Puget Sound Energy
 - We appreciate PSE being willing to participate in an evening meeting with us. This will be a dialogue. The goals of the meeting are to share information, get updates on PSE's plans, ask questions of PSE's subject matter experts, and discuss draft Climate Action Plan strategies.
 - This meeting is open to public observers. There will be a public comment period at the end.
 - Monday, Feb. 24: Next Climate Change Advisory Committee meeting, 6:30-8:30 pm.
 - Committee Co-Chairs: Michael Cox and David McCaughey will continue as co-chairs.
 - Two Task Forces are being formed, applications due Jan. 31:
 - Green Building Task Force
 - Sustainable Transportation Community Task Force
 - Carbon offsets for police station
 - The City Council is looking at how to make the police station energy efficient and sustainable, and whether to do that through upgrades and/or carbon offsets. The City could set an example with this building.
 - Discussion:
 - It would be nice to know what the energy footprint was of the older police and court buildings.
 - The City could potentially do both upgrades and offsets.
 - A key rule of thumb is not to use offsets to justify higher carbon infrastructure investments. They should come at the end, after investing in infrastructure that is low carbon, rather than locking in high carbon infrastructure.
 - It could be hard to renovate this building later, because it will be in operation 24/7.
 - Some of the systems are not otherwise old enough for replacement yet.
 - Buying offsets is not a one-time cost.
 - The current cost of offsets is a false economy – the price doesn't reflect a world that is taking climate change seriously, which we are.

- It's hard to find high-quality carbon offsets.
 - There could be an investment in reducing fossil carbon in another City facility for the same amount of money or the same greenhouse gas emissions reductions.
 - It is important for the City to lead by example and walk the talk. Investing in energy efficiency rather than buying offsets is consistent with our Climate Action Plan and the importance of addressing climate change by taking *real* action.
 - Recommendation: The Committee recommends that the Council invest in energy efficiency upgrades over carbon offsets. The Committee recommends that the City considers the most environmentally friendly way and timing for disposing of the existing system.
- Climate Emergency Declaration
 - The draft resolution aims to define the notion of a “climate lens” and ensure that decisions are consistent with our stated climate goals and processes. It officially recognizes the severity of climate impacts.
 - The Committee supports the intent of this resolution and will follow up with suggested text adjustments. We will discuss the revised draft at the next CCAC meeting and send on to the City Council.
 - We also discussed that the City could potentially institute an internal climate pricing policy. Other local governments are doing this.
5. Climate Action Plan discussion included:
- Criteria for prioritizing actions. Nora, Lara, Mike, and possibly Julie will develop criteria we can all use to prioritize the actions in our sections.
 - Being sure to include water-related actions in all relevant sections.
 - Considering how we will track progress over time with regard to the transportation sector in particular. Gary will develop some goals and actions for section 2 of the CAP. These will outline actions to collect more local data for the transportation section of Inventory.
 - Incorporating verification metrics into the plan.
 - Potential online community action survey (like Jefferson County has done) to track actions and changes at the household level.
 - Having ambitious energy-related goals, not using state goals as a ceiling.
 - Proposed schedule:
 - Everyone will have updated their sections no later than Feb. 10.
 - Mike will work with Ellen to figure out a schedule for City Staff review prior to sending to City Council.
 - Hopefully, at our Feb. 24 meeting, we can approve draft plan for City staff review, and then review City staff comments at our March meeting.
6. Other Business
- On the next City Council agenda, opportunity for public comment: Kitsap Economic Development Alliance's joint letter with organizations from other counties critical of clean fuel standards in Puget Sound. The City pays into the Alliance.
 - Next Movie that Matters: From the Ashes (about coal), Feb. 6 at the library. The one after that is March 5.
7. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

 2/24/2020

Co-Chair

Date