Juneau Commission on Sustainability
Wednesday, February 6, 2019
12 – 1pm
MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER: @ 12:03 by Chair Duff Mitchell. Commissioners present: Gretchen K., Jim P., Iura L., and Steve B. Assembly liaison Michelle H. CBJ liaison: Tim F. Public: Devon Kibby.

II. AGENDA: approved without changes.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Chair Mitchell had sent 1/19/19 retreat summary of priorities to Subcommittee chairs.
ACTION: Final comments are due to the Chair.

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

V. ACTION
A. Update on Airport Request for LEED Exemption for Phase II project. Chair Mitchell noted that he had nothing new to report. Tim F. explained that he has conducted CDD review of project for conditional use permit against land use code and various CBJ plans (Comp Plan, Transit Plan, Jnu Climate Action Implementation Plan, CSP). CDD review (to Planning Commission) encourages energy target, high-efficiency faucets, bike parking, etc. If LEED exemption were granted, a condition of the Conditional Use Permit would still require that the Airport meet the energy target in the JCAIP.

B. AK Energy Authority VW Settlement Grant. Guest Devon Kibby provided background on the current status of the $8.125 million available for grants in AK. $125,000 is available for EV charging infrastructure in Southeast AK, likely in the next funding cycle ~June 2019, with the possibility of another $135,000 now earmarked for rural AK EVs. Original AEA idea of regional EV plan for SE makes no sense and AEA is likely to change to individual SE communities applying for grants. Juneau and Sitka are only two municipalities that responded to 2018 solicitation for comments so CBJ in good position to get some funding. Devon recommended that CBJ prioritize its requests but put in for more than its pro-rata share of the $125,000. Andy Romanoff is also talking to Tlingit Haida Central Council about their intentions to tap into national VW Settlement monies earmarked for tribes. Rather than seek funding for an EV plan, Kibby indicated that considerable work had already been done identifying locations and costs, and developing scoring criteria.
last year. Juneau should use this grant process as an opportunity to get our act together. Tim F. suggested that using some of the proposed $250,000 Sustainability in the FY2020 CIP for an EV transportation plan would not be the best use of the CIP money since we already have many of the pieces, but need to pull them together.

ACTION: Steve B. requested that EV charging infrastructure and planning be on the agenda for the 2/27/19 JCOS Work Session.

C. Organization of Subcommittees. As mentioned previously, Chair Mitchell requested Subcommittee chairs finalize their lists of potential tasks for 2019.

D. Outreach. Chair Mitchell reported that 1/29/19 Sustainability Session on Air Quality Monitoring and Emissions was well attended and excellent media exposure of the issues. Kudos to Subcommittee Chair Woll on pulling this together. He noted that Kirby Day commented on the session’s professional aspects and civility. Tim F. noted that he received a call from a ship engineer who recently moved to Juneau and interested in talking to JCOS.

The next outreach would target the cruise industry to talk about what they’re doing on air emissions. The goal would be to get all the diverse players. One suggestion is that CBJ could perhaps begin an effort that presents awards to companies with good environmental records, as occurs in Seattle.

ACTION: Tim F. will look at availability of Session dates in late February – early March.

JCOS Website. Tim F. reported that CDD has put together the “bones” of the new JCOS website and it looks great. CDD will work with Christine W. to populate the website.

VI. INFORMATION ITEMS
A. Items for Assembly Action. Michelle B reported that she is working on a framework with the City Manager and Mayor on how to move forward on the Assembly’s 2019 Sustainability goal.
B. CBJ Department Feedback. Tim F. noted that the first EV bus is in the manufacture queue. Scheduled for delivery late 2019.
C. Subcommittee Reports. Duff M. observed that a difficulty that falls under the Sustainability Indicators group is the inability to get access to granular data on fuel usage in the community. There should be an effort to extract the data from sales tax records without violating confidentiality.
D. CIP Update. A draft is underway in Engineering & Public Works Dept. $250,000 in FY2020 is proposed for Sustainability/Implementation of Juneau Renewable Energy Strategy. This would fund 50% of Michelle Elfers’ replacement for Sustainability/JRES work. Michelle Hale is suggesting another $50,000 for EV charging infrastructure.

E. Livestock Update. Tim F. reported that the urban livestock ordinance is on hold this month because the Planning Commission is busy on other projects.

F. Marine Passenger Fee Proposal for Dock Electrification. City Mgr Watt has yet to release the list of proposals for FY2020. The Assembly’s upcoming information meeting will begin the consideration process.

VII. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS: No additional comments offered.

VIII. Meeting Adjourned: 1:10 pm.

Submitted,
Gretchen Keiser, Acting Secretary for Meeting