

Minutes
Juneau Commission on Sustainability
Wednesday, July 15, 2009, 5:15 pm
Mendenhall Library, Conference Room

I. Meeting was called to order at 5:15pm by Vice Chair Sean Lynch. Also in attendance: Eva Bornstein, Bob Doll, Alida Bus, Gayle Wood, Sarah Lewis, Rick Wolk, Catherine Fritz, Beth McKibben (staff). Members of the public in attendance: Jonathan Kamle, Mihael Blikshteyn.

II. Minutes of June 3, 2009 were approved.

III. Congratulations were extended to Sandy Boyce, Rick Wolk, and Eva Bornstein for term renewals on the JCOS. It was also noted that Dan Miller has been appointed by the Planning Commission to replace Nancy Waterman as their rep on the JCOS.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

A. Community Outreach JCOS interview on KTOO Juneau Afternoon program will be Monday August 24, 2009 to focus on advertising for the August 29 Farmer's Market.

B. JCOS has been invited to participate in an evening one hour program called "Focus on Community" also on KTOO on Thursday August 27, 2009. Purpose is to discuss the workings and projects/interests of the Commission. Bob, Alida, Gayle, and tentatively Rick (will confirm) will attend. Bob will draft an outline script and forward it to other participants for review.

C. CBJ Non-Motorized Transportation Plan. Comments on the plan are expected from the Affordable Housing Committee soon. Sean will review these comments and forward his additional suggestions to JCOS members. JCOS will review Sean's draft at next meeting, which is scheduled for August 5th.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Energy/GHG committee: Gayle reported that the next meeting is July 27, 2009

Bob has briefed the City Manager and Mayor on the GHG Reduction targets suggested by the committee. Rick offered to help provide relevant information from UAS about the GHG documentation if it is needed.

Greenhouse Gas Registry - www.theclimateregistry.org. It was decided not to join the Climate Registry because of the cost.

Bob noted that CBJ has submitted the application for Fed Stim funding to repair the JACC roof. Included in this is an energy efficiency and conservation strategy that has been articulated in the document.

CBJ Energy Conservation Policy and CBJ Adoption of Energy Code: Bob reported that at a recent PWFC meeting, the City Manager provided a copy of Admin Policy 05-04 that directs energy conservation and efficiency measures to City projects. Both the Manager and Engineering Director agreed that it is vague and needs improvements. PWFC asked City Manager and Engineering Director to work with JCOS to update/amend this policy. In discussions about adopting the next building code (that includes a chapter on Energy Conservation), PWFC suggested that JCOS meet with Building Code Advisory Committee. Catherine, Sarah, and Gayle offered to work on both of these items. Sarah also noted that the Law Dept is drafting an ordinance that is oriented to High Performance buildings being required – they are using the Anchorage ordinance as a basis for the "LEED Juneau." Catherine and Bob will send an email to the BCAC to express interest in helping with the energy code provisions adoption and find out the timeline for review.

City Green Ops Committee: Sean asked if targets are being set by CBJ. Beth replied, "No", but summarized that the group has been reviewing information from Homer, including a survey. They are considering developing a policy manual to distribute to CBJ staff. They have also discussed other 'green' ideas to improve CBJ such as 'greening' the procurement process, carpooling, etc. Discussion by JCOS followed about trying to improve access to energy consumption information for city buildings and their managers.

B. Food Security committee; Sarah noted that the committee discussed their mission and purpose at the June meeting. Next meeting is August 12, 2009. Sarah reported that there has been some public inquiry and interest on the topic of increasing agricultural opportunities in Juneau. "Food, Inc" is to be shown this weekend at Nickelodeon.

C. Outreach committee. Beth will send the Commission's annual report to JCOS members; Catherine will post on the web site.

Farmers' Market will be Aug 29 at JACC. Eva reported that the committee is working actively to organize and recruit vendors. Getting the local businesses to participate has been very challenging. It was agreed to endorse and support "Turning the Tides" in getting Ellen Frankenstein to show the Eating Alaska movie during the evening of Aug 29. The movie is consistent with the goals of the Food Security Committee. JCOS will promote and advertise the event during the Farmer's Market.

VI. OTHER

A. Rick announced that he is working on a project he calls "Green Gazelle" (fast growth businesses) – helping individuals and groups to achieve small business economic and ecological sustainability. It is action research based work that pushes for change; has state-wide application. Rick will forward information about the matrices this program uses; JCOS applauded the effort and will consider endorsements on projects or efforts as appropriate.

B. Member of the public Mihael Blikshteyn asked the JCOS for assistance/support of a CBJ plastic and paper bag ban. He spoke with the JCOS about goals to reduce/eliminate disposable bag use, especially plastic. JCOS discussed the types of information that they would need to support an ordinance, including endorsements from local stores and a report from TTT of extensive public outreach/information assuring that a broad base and large % of the community knows the issues and supports discontinuing the use of disposable bags. It was agreed that this is an important issue, but very complicated, and requires both incentives (carrots) as well as penalties (sticks) to get behaviors to change.

VII. ADJOURNMENT at 6:55pm.

Minutes drafted by Catherine Fritz