

DRAFT Minutes

Juneau Commission on Sustainability
Wednesday, September 1, 2010, 5:15pm
Mendenhall Library Conference Room

- I. Call to Order – Sean Lynch called the meeting to order at 5:25. Other members in attendance were Steve Behnke, Bob Doll, Eva Bornstein, Nathan Arentsen, Alida Bus, Sarah Lewis, and Beth McKibben. Sean made the announcement that Catherine Fritz was forced to tender her resignation to tend to family needs. That leaves the JCOS with one opening.
- II. Agenda Changes—Bob Doll asked to add ‘location of meetings’ to Action Items.
- III. Approval of Minutes—Minutes of August meeting were approved without objection.
- IV. Public Participation—Marsha Bennett, one member of the public, was in attendance.
- V. Information Items
 - a. Commission Member Additions and Loss—welcome Nathan Arentsen and Steve Behnke. Regrettably, Catherine Fritz resigned.
 - b. City Liaison Report
 - i. The application for the Sustainable Housing and Communities Regional Planning Grant was submitted in a timely fashion, with slight changes from the draft Eva originally wrote.
 - ii. Beth McKibben reminded us that the JCOS is tasked with managing sustainability indicators as part of the CBJ Comprehensive Plan. Discussion followed. Jim Powell is an expert in local sustainability indicators—perhaps he’d be a good resource on this topic. Number of households that have gone from 3 to 2 garbage cans, etc. Concrete evidence to make a case for making change. Eva mentioned the JEDC might be willing to collect data on indicators as a subset of data as part of their indicator work. We’ll talk about indicators at a future meeting as a discussion item.
 - iii. Barbara Sheinberg sent Where the Action Is, an article about what local governments are doing on climate change issues.
 - c. Items up for Assembly Action—The next Assembly meeting is not until September 20th, so there is no immediate action. Bob mentioned one sustainability item is the North Douglas crossing funding issue that will be on the ballot on the 5th of October. The vote ties the city to pursuing the permits for the crossing.
 - d. Committee Reports
 - i. GHG—Alida reported that the committee met on Monday to review and make changes to the RFP for the Climate Action Plan. Bob will present the RFP to the city manager tomorrow with the suggested changes. The RFP is a \$70K, 1 year report.

CBJ is going to do the project, and it may or may not have HUD grant funding.

ii. Outreach

1. Alida reported that the 3rd Annual Local Foods Festival and Farmers Market took place at the Juneau Arts and Culture Center on Saturday, August 28th from 9am-2pm. Sarah, Bob, Nathan, Nicole & Alida manned the JCOS table. It seemed like it was about as attended as past years, but that outdoor space made it less crowded in the main hall. Not as packed in the presentations. Official numbers of patrons, sales, and results from the survey/evaluation to follow. Eva mentioned there's a movement to end the annual market and put more into the weekly markets.
2. Eva reminded the commission that with the loss of Catherine, Outreach loses our chair, and will need to nominate a replacement. Sarah moved to move the organization of the farmers market to the Food Security committee from the Outreach committee. Adopted with unanimous consent. We need a new chair of the committee to take on managing the website and email address. Alida nominated Nathan Arentsen, and he was appointed chair of the Outreach committee.

- iii. Food Security—Sarah reported the committee is now meeting the 4th Thursday of each month. Working with UAF CES on community gardens and community kitchen. There's a plan to have a monthly community kitchen event with CES and Slow Food. The first event is September 17th at JDHS from 6-10pm. There'll be a class from 6-8, followed by an open kitchen from 8-10. Food Security is working on putting together a guide of local community kitchens that will include which kitchens (ANB hall, churches, etc) are DEC approved, and how a person can use them (contacts, cost, etc). Also working on an urban agriculture guide, including community gardens.

VI. Action Items

- a. 350 Event—Alida reported that the JCOS is organizing a climate action work party event. Visit 350.org for more information. 350 is the parts per million of CO2 considered safe by scientists. UAS, Thunder Mountain High School students are potential volunteer pools. The publicity, project identification, tools gathering tasked to the Outreach committee. Thanks, new chair Nathan.
- b. Letter to Assembly re: solid waste. Bob reported that the letter deals more than just recycling, but incineration and other issues too. At the October meeting, we'd like to be able to agree on final text of the letter. Nathan mentioned we should mention working with private stakeholders in the community, since you include SRWMA. Bob

included SRWMA because they're asking for our help to bring their trash to Juneau to burn. SRWMA will present at SE Conference September 14-16. One of the CBJ Assembly's priorities is to maintain good relations with other SE communities. Sean mentioned Juneau should become more connected with other regional communities in order to boost economies of scale. Any solution to the solid waste problem will have to be negotiated with WM and companies involved. Nathan suggested that we ask in the letter for the city to issue an RFP to solicit plans for building an incinerator, in order to pin down the financial options for Juneau. Eva voiced that the role of the JCOS should be more to include waste stream reduction in the short term to keep the landfill from growing, in addition to penning this letter for the long-term perspective. The point is to get the ball rolling on solving the solid waste problem.

- c. JCOS participation in Energy Awareness Month—October is Energy Awareness Month. October 9th is the Energy Fair at Nugget Mall; JCOS should have a booth. Tasked to the Outreach group.
- d. Meeting location. Move meetings to be permanently moved downtown. Bob moved & unanimous consent.

VII. Adjournment. Meeting was adjourned at pm. Next meeting is scheduled for October 6, 2010 at 5:15 at the downtown library.