

Juneau Commission on Sustainability (JCOS)

Work Session

Wednesday, October 19, 2022, 12:00 p.m. (Noon)

Zoom

A. Call to Order

Chair Keiser called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

B. Land Acknowledgment

C. Roll Call

Present: Gretchen Keiser, Steve Behnke, David Teal, Danielle Meeker, Nick Waldo, Marian Call

Absent: Jim Powell, Duff Mitchell, Jessie Barker

A quorum was present.

Staff & Others Present: CBJ Staff Liaison Denise Koch, Commission Liaison Paul Voelckers

Members of the Public Present: Lori Sowa (AEL&P)

D. Approval of Agenda

Agenda approved without amendments

E. Public Participation

F. Agenda Topics

a. Legislative Priorities Nominations – David Teal and Gretchen Keiser

CBJ Engineering & Public Works Director Katie Koester recently asked for JCOS input on CBJ's list of legislative priorities. Included in meeting packet is a one-page draft submission from Mr. Teal based on commissioner input. Out of the priorities included in CBJ's list from 2021, JCOS supports dock electrification.

Ms. Koch responded to Mr. Teal's question about CBJ's list of legislative priorities from 2021 by saying that the items on the list are numbered in order of priority.

Mr. Behnke expressed his support for the draft response from JCOS and seconded Mr. Teal's request to get more information from CBJ about how the

list will be used, and whether it might preclude funding and support for other sustainability projects not included on the list.

Ms. Keiser directed JCOS members to the meeting packet, which includes a copy of CBJ's request to Senator Murkowski for funding for the design and construction of a new municipal composting facility in Lemon Creek. The request is pending, which means that Senator Murkowski's office has accepted it and is currently pursuing funding.

Ms. Koch noted that JCOS' recommendations to Ms. Koester regarding CBJ's legislative priorities are due by December 1st.

b. Juneau's Climate Action and Sustainability - Work Plan Draft – Steve Behnke

Mr. Behnke provided an overview of the "Juneau's Climate Action and Sustainability: What's Been Accomplished and Recommendations for a 5-10 Year Work Plan " document included in the meeting packet. Mr. Behnke described the sustainability items of importance to JCOS (e.g., dock electrification, electric buses, EV charging, residential energy efficiency programs) and the lack of a comprehensive statement describing JCOS priorities. Mr. Behnke discussed the value of a statement in informing the CBJ Assembly, shaping JCOS actions, monitoring progress towards goals, and identifying synergies with other city priorities (e.g., education, housing). Mr. Behnke concluded by asking other JCOS members what they would like to do with this document and who is the intended audience.

Mr. Teal expressed his support for the document, and suggested that Ms. Keiser or Mr. Behnke consider promoting the document via local radio.

Ms. Keiser said that her motivation for producing this type of document stems from a desire to acknowledge the progress that has been made by CBJ on several climate and sustainability efforts, and to recap past and ongoing efforts for new JCOS members. Ms. Keiser noted that this type of document allows JCOS to better plan for the next five years.

Ms. Call asked about the potential for soliciting community input on this document. Several JCOS commissioners shared their opinions on how best to share the final work plan and recommendations with the public.

Ms. Keiser asked whether JCOS members are comfortable with finalizing the document ahead of the retreat, or would prefer to wait until after the retreat to finalize it. Mr. Teal answered that he would prefer to wait until after the retreat. Mr. Waldo suggested that the document be finalized prior to the retreat by designating a lead author and allowing other JCOS members to submit feedback via a shared Google doc.

Ms. Sowa provided her feedback on the recommendations and work plan document, including an offer to provide relevant statistics and an offer to represent AEL&P in a meeting with JCOS to discuss specific energy questions. Ms. Sowa also offered to provide contact information for the Regulatory Commission of Alaska (RCA) so that JCOS can obtain better information on RCA’s regulatory authority over solid waste disposal.

G. Information Items

Ms. Keiser and Ms. Koch informed JCOS members about the upcoming retreat, which is currently scheduled for Saturday, December 3rd, from 9am to noon. Several JCOS members expressed a preference for meeting in-person, with a COVID testing requirement.

H. Committee Member/Liaison Comments and Questions

I. Next Meeting Date(s)

Monthly Regular Meeting	Nov 2, 2022 @ 12PM ZOOM
Monthly Work Session/Subcommittee	Nov 16, 2022 @ 12PM ZOOM
Monthly Regular Meeting	Dec 7, 2022@ 12PM ZOOM

J. Adjournment

Chair Keiser adjourned the meeting at 1:12 p.m.

Submitted by Danielle Meeker, Secretary