

Minutes

Juneau Commission on Sustainability

Wednesday, November 3, 2021

Zoom Conference

12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

12:01 pm, by Chair Gretchen Keiser. Commissioners present: Anjuli Grantham, Lisa Daugherty, Steve Behnke, Duff Mitchell, David Teal, Collin Peacock. CBJ liaison present: Allison Eddins. Assembly liaison present: Carole Triem. Planning Commission liaison present: none. General public present: Jeremy Shae, Zach Gianotti, Katie Koester.

II. AGENDA CHANGES

Add item for Update on NOLO grant.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

October 20, 2021 - Anjuli made a motion to accept the minutes with a few clarification modifications by Gretchen, seconded by Duff.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

V. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. CBJ Sustainability Report (attached) & Other E&PW Efforts - Katie Koester

CBJ Engineering recently completed a Sustainability Report to communicate to the public what it is doing in regards to sustainability, energy tracking, and improvements.

It is doing Zero Waste planning with a three tiered approach:

1. Near term goal - better communication with Waste Management for odor control. WM will be presenting to PWFC on Nov 29.
2. Mid-term goal - establish a compost pilot program. Available funding has been identified. May include cardboard shredding pilot and composting at schools and CBJ facilities with modeling for a large scale site.
3. Long-term goal - work on a Zero Waste Plan. They are asking the Assembly for \$100K for the next budget cycle. Will bring stakeholders, consultants, and staff together. Katie suggested the Assembly update its goal to include the actual language "Zero Waste."

Lots of work is being done on vehicle electrification. They are working with Devon Kibby on making maps on where charging infrastructure would make the most sense. Marine Park parking garage, Twin Lakes, Basic Road, and Eaglecrest are likely spots. They are looking into an AEA grant for level 2 chargers. Applications will be available in early 2022. The city e-bus is currently able to drive 6 hours on one charge. Funding for the next 7 bus replacements has been secured, but has not yet been made available. This is a good thing, since technology is always improving, and we can hope the next buses will have a longer run time. Capital Transit is looking for on-route charging options and are going to apply for another NOLO grant. Each year about \$50K out of the CIP pot has been available for charging infrastructure.

The “NOLO controversy” has been due to mixed messages from DOT on whether or not they will apply for/accept grant funds on behalf of CBJ or other entities. It was a time management issue, and it looks like they will move forward with continuing to apply for NOLO grants.

Duff suggested soliciting letters of support for the grant application, which will seek funding for charging infrastructure.

b. *Cruise Ship Dock Electrification Study Draft Report & JCOS Comments* (attached) -Gretchen/Steve

JCOS submitted a short letter to Assembly ahead of the COW November 1 meeting, reiterating the public interest in dock electrification and asked that the Assembly would ensure a complete public process. Assumptions in the report were narrow, and the financial portion was weak. There is a 60 day comment period on the report, so JCOS will dig deeper into the report and submit public comments. Gretchen is going to try and work with new PWFC chair Bryson to see if we can have a liaison at their meetings. In the absence of a Sustainability Coordinator, it seems like that task falls to JCOS. Duff reminded the group that the JCOS charter says we are an advisory group to the Assembly and that we are also charged with seeking grant opportunities. David said the report was lacking in actual data and it seemed more like an opinionated conclusion. He thinks numbers should be included in the report so that people can come to their own conclusions based on data. In other words, a lot more work needs to be done to the draft so that the Assembly gets what it paid for out of the report. Gretchen agreed that we don't have the “full picture.”

c. *JCOS Comments for Assembly Dec 4 Retreat (attached draft)* - Gretchen

Gretchen asked commissioners to review the draft and provide comments. Carol recommended prioritizing or ranking goals.

d. *JCOS Potential FY2023 CIP (attached)* - Steve

Update: The internal process for developing the CIP has a new sustainability element. The form for departments now includes a new column, called the "Sustainability Element," where the nominating department will provide information about if, and how, each nominated project includes a "green/sustainable" element. Steve made a draft of our CIP recommended requests for review; there is plenty of time to develop.

e. NOLO grant update - Duff

DOT does not have funding for indirect costs for administering the grant since federal government does not allocate admin costs for these kinds of grants. The State does not intend to block communities from applying for the grant--they just want to cover their costs. Funding might be available elsewhere, and City Manager and Director of Engineering and Public Works and others have been working to ameliorate the problem.

VI. INFORMATION ITEMS

Assembly Standing Committees & Liaison - Gretchen introduced Carole Triem as our new Assembly liaison. JCOS has worked with CBJ's PWFC extensively, which will now be chaired by Wade Bryson.

VIII.COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

None.

VIII. Next meetings

Special Meeting November 17, @ 12PM ZOOM
Monthly regular meeting December 1, 2021 @ 12PM ZOOM
Monthly Work session/Subcommittee December 15 @ 12PM ZOOM

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Gretchen moved to adjourn, Steve seconded. 1:28 pm.

Submitted by Lisa Daugherty, Secretary