

Minutes
Juneau Commission on Sustainability
Wednesday, December 16, 2020
12:00p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
VIRTUAL MEETING ONLY⁹

- I. **Call to Order @ 12:03** by Chair Gretchen Keiser. Commissioners present: Jim Powell, Steve Behnke, David Teal, Duff Mitchell, Gretchen Keiser (Chair), Lisa Daugherty, Anjuli Grantham (joined 12:13pm). Absent: John Smith. Also attending: Erik Pederson (Planning Commission liaison); Beth McKibben (CBJ staff liaison); Public: KINY Radio and Erik Bultez. A quorum was present.
- II. **Agenda.** Chair Keiser asked for a change so that Item V.c. (Marine Passenger Fees in 2021) be moved ahead of Item V.b. Approved without objections.
- III. **Approval of Minutes.** Motion by Steve Behnke to approve both November 4, 2020 and December 2, 2020 minutes. Approved without objections.
- IV. **Public Participation.** None
- V. **Action/Discussion Items.**
 - a. Sustainability Indicators. Jim Powell provided info from Whitehorse, YT on how they track indicators. They have 12 indicators (subject, goal, short explanation, targets, and where they are on reaching targets). Mr Powell also provided a status on UAS Climate Impacts Report. JCOS could see a draft for review in February 2021. Scope has changed to make report more useful to communities and less of a white paper. Will include graphics. Report team will provide suggestions for a dashboard for JCOS. He mentioned that CBJ was doing a great job with COVID-19 dashboard.

Mr Mitchell raised concern about not getting fuel data from Juneau fuel dealers and asked for a motion to allow Ms Keiser to talk with City Attorney. Ms McKibben will check at CBJ about how to get this info. Mr Behnke stated that this data problem would likely be addressed by the “energy pathways” proposal to be sent to the Assembly. Mr Mitchell pulled his motion.
 - b. JCOS Comments on Marine Passenger Fees in 2021. Mr Mitchell explained that memo draws on previous 2020 comments to the Assembly and the Visitors Task Force. Mr Teal moved to accept the letter and allow Chair to do final editing. Motion approved without objection.

- c. JCOS Memo to Assembly on Energy Pathways Proposed Contract. Mr Behnke indicated that the near-final memo before JCOS members would request money for a contract to update the Juneau energy data and GHG emissions, plus a dynamic modeling tool to identify pathways forward to implement JRES and JCAIP. Ms McKibben stated that Juneau Comprehensive Plan also calls for implementation. Chair Keiser described some minor editing and indicated that JCOS had already empowered her and Mr. Behnke to complete this memo.
- d. Utility On-Bill Financing. Mr Behnke presented the white paper authored by Andrew Gallagher of Alaska Heat Smart for information only. On-bill financing is a commonly used loan mechanism for financing energy efficiency upgrades, with the loan repaid through monthly charge on a utility bill, such as CBJ's water/wastewater utility bill. There are multiple ways to put together this type of financing, and it would take some work to put in place (ordinance, developing process and partners, funding, etc.). Mr Mitchell stated that there were a lot of steps involved, but that JCOS could help explain the benefits of OBF as a source for homeowners who lack upfront cash for energy efficiency upgrades.

[Mr. Powell left meeting at 12:30.]

- e. January 2021 JCOS Annual Retreat. Ms McKibben asked whether JCOS wanted to keep regular January 6th meeting and January 27th work session in addition to the annual retreat date. JCOS members agreed to hold on to those two dates for now. Ms. McKibben will send a doodle poll for Saturdays January 16, 23,30 morning and afternoons.
Action: Ms Keiser will prepare a summary of JCOS actions in last year as background for the retreat.
JCOS Commissioners should review JRES, JCAIP, and Comprehensive Plan for ideas and bring their top three projects/actions for 2021 to the retreat.

VI. Information Items.

- a. JCOS Vacancy/Assembly HRC 1/4/21. No discussion.

VII. Commissioner Comments.

In a discussion about federal climate funds likely in new administration, Ms Grantham asked how CBJ advocates for federal funds. Ms McKibben will look into this question. Juneau needs to ensure funds come to Juneau for climate-related projects, although recognizing that other entities – state and federal agencies, tribal and nonprofit organizations can receive federal funds. JCOS could write an

application on behalf of CBJ, but CBJ staff would receive the grant and be responsible for project management and reporting.

Mr. Bultez indicated that he was just observing JCOS and intended to apply for the vacancy.

Eric Peterson (Planning Commission liaison) indicated that the Commission was working on downtown parking issues. Ms Keiser suggested that the Commission consider incentives to private and public lot owners to add EV charging in their lots.

In response to a status question about Comprehensive Plan revision, Ms McKibben indicated that the RFP was ready to issue, but was held because of Covid-19. Not sure if money is still available or had been transferred to other work.

VIII. **Adjournment.** Chair Keiser adjourned the meeting at 1:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Gretchen Keiser, Meeting Secretary