

Minutes
Juneau Commission on Sustainability
Wednesday, July 1, 2020
Downtown Library, Large Conference Room
12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

- I. **CALL TO ORDER: @12:02 by Chair Gretchen Kaiser.** Commissioners present: Christine Woll, John Smith, Anjuli Grantham, Lisa Daugherty, Duff Mitchell, and Steve Behnke. Assembly liaison present: Alicia Hughes-Skandjis. CBJ liaison: Tim Felstead. Guest: Katie Koester and Stuart Ashton.

I. AGENDA CHANGES:

- a. Notes:

Agenda changes are suggested including taking the sustainability sessions action item off the agenda because Jim Powell is not present and adding discussion of Lisa's solid waste ideas.

- b. Action taken:

Steve makes a motion to approve the agenda with the discussed changes and Christine seconds the motion. No objections and the motion is approved.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The meeting minutes for June 10, 2020, meeting were approved.

- II. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** No member of general public spoke to JCOS.

III. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Arts Juneau

- a. Notes

Anjuli provides update on ArtWorks Juneau – essentially she brought the idea of creating a program modeled after a new deal program that puts artists to work doing public art works, but focused on the city's sustainability priorities – to the Juneau Arts and Culture Center (JACC) – and JACC staff brought the idea in a new form to the economic stabilization task force. The “new form” essentially removed the sustainability concept from the idea. The concept was then brought to the assembly, and currently \$500,000 of CARES act funding is allocated to this concept.

Gretchen references the 1-pager that was created to sell this idea regarding sustainability. She asks the group how they want to move forward and engage?

Anjuli says that she still thinks it is important that if JCOS can, that they provide talking points, reference materials, and key documents related to JCOS to help artists figure out how they might be able to share these messages.

Steve says that as a result of Anjuli's groundwork, we still have the opportunity to influence the program.

Alicia says it is shocking that the assembly did not hear about the origins of this program, that it was originally pitched by JCOS. She thinks that working with the JACC and influencing the program makes sense.

Gretchen again asks how we want to move forward.

Christine says that we can be involved and make sure that the value of sustainability is included as criteria in the program. Steve suggests that we work to include criteria around assembly goals. Lisa suggests sending a letter that asks for a certain % of the funds for sustainability issues. Christine suggests that an ask like this perpetuates treating sustainability as a separate thing that may get cut out, instead of integrating it into everything we do – and that really we want every project to have a sustainability component.

b. Action taken

Steve moves that Anjuli and Gretchen draft a letter to the JACC expressing our interest in being involved. The motion is seconded and then approved.

2. Issue – Community garden

a. Notes

Christine explains that she is in the Master Gardener class, which requires a community service project. She was hoping to do something policy focused, but was not able to work with JCOS on this given the shutdown. However, she wrote a draft proposal that would essentially be recommendations for how Juneau can expand access to community gardens in Juneau. She knows that “food security” is not a JCOS priority right now, but she thinks the project could be more meaningful if it was reviewed and potentially endorsed by JCOS.

Tim suggests talking to George Schaff and Dan Blidorn with Juneau Parks and Recreation. He mentions that there has been mention of community gardens as part of the blueprint downtown process.

b. Action requested

It is suggested that Christine bring back the report when it is in near-completion for JCOS to consider endorsing at that time.

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS

- Committee Reports

- JRES Implementation, Including CBJ Energy Management

Steve reports that he still don't know a lot about what is going on or where to go from here in terms of working with the city. He mentions that CBJ is working on a big grant that could be a big help. He thinks it would be useful to focus on energy management and monitoring and how we get to CBJ. He says that we need to put together that case again and make inroads with assembly because we haven't gotten to it with City Manager to date. He suggests that maybe we should take the materials we have generated, and re-package them, making the point that "we know there is not much money around, but here is one of the things that actually does save money".

Alicia says that she thinks Steve's reflections make sense. She suspects that people will be suspect and you might not find an audience, especially if things are going to change anyway, like with a new city hall as an example.

Gretchen asks Alicia if it will be a COW meeting if we want to do more outreach. Alicia confirms.

- Solid Waste

Lisa references a document she shared with JCOS about whether we should have a discussion about Juneau actually building a new landfill. The idea has not been explored since 1993, and everyone has been assuming we can't build a new one since. However, Lisa thinks that if we did have a new landfill, that could help reduce what we are throwing out now, and would give the city more control of the waste streams.

Gretchen suggests this is a good item for the sub-committee to grapple with. Anjuli asks how we would actually go about addressing this? Gretchen suggests we would pull together information, and work with public works, and that eventually that would get it into the CIP. Alicia says yes that is largely right but there may be a lot of time and steps in the middle. Alicia asks where the study is, and Lisa says it is on the website. Stuart suggests looking at the older study as a starting point.

- Annual Report

This would be presented by Gretchen to HRC on July 12th

- Other

V. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

VIII.ADJOURNMENT: Meeting Adjourned * [Time]**

**Submitted,
Christine Woll, Secretary for Meeting**