

Minutes – APPROVED 02/05/20
Juneau Commission on Sustainability
Wednesday, January 8, 2019
Downtown Library, Large Conference Room
12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

- I. **CALL TO ORDER: @ 12:05 by Chair Duff Mitchell.** Commissioners present: Gretchen Keiser, Christine Woll, Lisa Daugherty, John Smith, Ed King, Anjuli Grantham, Jim Powell, and Steve Behnke. Assembly liaison: Alicia Hughes-Skandijs. CBJ liaison: Tim Felstead.

I. **AGENDA CHANGES:**

Gretchen requests adding an update on the Sustainability awards to the agenda.

II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion made: Gretchen moves approval of minutes from December 4, 2019. Steve seconds.

Action taken: No objections, December 4, 2019 minutes are approved.

III. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** No members of the public were present.

IV. **ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Future action requested:

Motion made:

Action taken:

1. Clean Ports Initiative

Duff describes the memo he has provided, which is intended to be a proposal submitted to the Visitor Industry Task force, to describe JCOS recommendations regarding sustainability issues and characterized as a Clean Port Initiative.

Steve mentions that some of the items discussed did not “make the cut” as priorities for the assembly.

Duff describes that he separated the water bottle issue from the reusable shopping bag issue because any actions associated with either would target different audiences and have different champions.

Gretchen suggests making the reference to congestion general, given that it is not just buses that cause the congestion. She also requests a title change, given the overuse of the word priorities, and a cover letter with date that makes it clear what these recommendations are for. Duff concurs that he will include a memo in standard memo form.

Duff asks for clarification on who to address the memo to. Tim says that we don’t need to send to the human resource committee first, just make sure to cc that committee.

Anjuli makes a comment that any clean port initiative should be about the entire port, not just visitor industry. Duff agrees to provide that context in the document.

Alicia provides an update on the Visitor Industry Task Force and that they are just now getting to talking about the charge before them.

Motion made: Steve moves to submit the recommendations on the clean port initiative, after Duff makes changes as discussed and sends to Gretchen, Steve, and Christine for review. The motion is seconded.

Action taken: No objections; the clean port initiative memo will be sent to the Visitor Industry Task force pending discussed revisions.

2. Plastics/recycling:

Lisa explains that she recently wrote an op-ed in the Juneau Empire about starting a no-waste movement in Juneau, in response to Win Gruening's recent op-ed about the dump. She has created a new no-waste group, not associated with JCOS. 28 people have signed up.

John asks why the city does not take plastics #3-#7. Lisa explains that you can get curbside pickup for #3-#7, but it all goes down south and likely is landfilled.

Gretchen asks Alicia what the assembly means when they prioritize a solid waste plan. Alicia responds that the assembly is focused on the life cycle of the landfill.

Duff reminds everyone that a few months ago Ed put together a proposal related to plastic bags, including options that were somewhere between a ban and no action. Ed explains that he wanted to do this to "get ahead" of momentum related to a plastic bag ban.

Future action requested: Duff to resend memo, and the group to spend time at the retreat talking about this as part of a holistic plan.

3. Assembly priorities:

Steve reads through some of the Assembly priorities related to JCOS. These include incorporating solid waste strategy and recycling; measuring and tracking energy usage; exploring an assembly sustainable committee; a single use plastics program; water consumption reduction borough wide (as energy reduction); make progress on JRES goals; and develop a climate change adaptation plan. Other slightly related priorities included examining the life cycle costs of new buildings include the new city hall, and incentives for reducing the cost of living.

Alicia reflects that the current assembly has an appetite for sustainability initiatives. She reports that the idea of the assembly sustainability committee is reflective of JCOS being so broad, but that there isn't always dedicated time or subcommittees to be making progress on related goals.

Duff asked why dock electrification didn't make the priority list. Alicia responded that they are still waiting to get to a price tag, and they haven't gotten there yet.

4. Marine Passenger Fee Dock Electrification Request

Duff describes the memo that was submitted to the city regarding the recommendation to use marine passenger fees to help fund dock electrification, and the changes that were made since the letter was submitted last year [Attachment A].

5. Sustainability sessions

Christine suggests we talk about this at the retreat and try to target some sustainability sessions based on the issues that are important to JCOS, or to the assembly.

6. Retreat date:

The retreat date is January 18, from 9:30-12. Duff describes that we usually talk about priorities and form committees and commit to electing officers in the next meeting. Gretchen agrees to do a boiled down list of accomplishments to review from the last year.

7. Sustainability awards

Future action requested: Duff will create a cover page to pass along with the sustainability awards proposal to the assembly/city office.

Jim describes to Alicia the \$5000 proposal to help fund the University study on climate impacts in Juneau.

V. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Items for Assembly Action

Jim mentions that now is the period for public comments on the Visitor Industry Task Force, and that he will be submitting some on behalf of his neighborhood association.

2. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Anjuli asks if we should be talking about the clean port initiative with docks and harbors. Duff agrees and says he will cc docks and harbors on the memo.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting Adjourned 1:08.

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