

City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ)
Juneau Commission on Sustainability (JCOS)
Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2015
Large Conference Room, Downtown Library

I. Meeting called to order at 5:38 P.M.

Present: Tim Felstead (CBJ Liaison), Kate Troll (CBJ Assembly Liaison), Ben Haight (Planning Commission), Kate Bevegni, Darrell Wetherall, John Smith, Greg Smith (call in), Clint Gundelfinger

Visitors: Michelle Elfers

II. Agenda Changes – Darrell Wetherall acting as chair (Steve Behnke absent)

III. Minutes of the September 16, 2015 meeting approved as amended.

IV. Public Participation - None

V. Action Items

A. Update On Bio-Solids/Solid Waste – Michelle Elfers stated that the new baler (recycling) had been installed and was functioning. For comparison, the old baler could produce 18 bales per day while the new baler can produce 36 bales in 2 hours. What this means is that the recycling program has room for expansion and Jim Penor is looking at incorporating Juneau Schools and the Bartlett Hospital complex into the program and looking at the placement of recycling drop-off boxes. Also of interest is a food composting program. A community group/steering committee will need to be set up to investigate the potential for this. Kate Troll inquired if the group would be evaluating locations. Ms. Elfers stated that that would be an important consideration. Initially food for composting would be picked up from large producers. John Smith described some current composting practices implemented within local schools that he is involved with. On Tuesday, October 20, 2015, the utility Advisory Board meeting will discuss updates regarding bio-solids. There will be a guest to discuss the potential for shipping Juneau bio-solids to Hoonah as material for a digester system. Under the existing plan an RFB for a bio-solids dryer was received to which construction and capital costs were added for the project. Based on that cost (exact number unavailable at this meeting) an incinerator option is being looked at again however new air pollution standards will have to be abided by and permitted.

B. Airport Sustainability Master Plan – Kate Bevegni submitted JCOS questions and received answers in an email from Barbara Sheinberg (Sheinberg Associates) addressing JCOS questions. There is to be a public meeting October 27, 2015. Kate Troll suggested that since the Airport Board is an empowered board JCOS should push for involvement. Tim Felstead asked if the Airport Board presented an annual report to the CBJ Assembly and if so suggested that there should be some sort of annual reporting on the Airport Sustainability Plan. Kate Troll stated that there was an annual report submitted to CBJ Assembly. Ms. Bevegni offered to draft some comments to be discussed at the next JCOS meeting.

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C. Building Code Update – Steve Behnke and Charlie Ford are going to get together with the Building Code Advisory Committee (BCAC) and members of JCOS to discuss energy oriented building code updates/amendments. Kate Troll suggested that the BCAC wanted to see some economic evidence to justify changing any standards. Tim Felstead stated that according to Charlie Ford the biggest barrier would be commercial costs and suggested that we look at ways to incentivize energy efficiency. Kate Troll proffered that there might be an opportunity to provide tax breaks. Greg Smith suggested we find a way to get this process to drive itself via customer/tenant pressure. Clint Gundelfinger suggested that JCOS focus on building energy codes after the Energy Plan was finalized as some of its content might be applicable to the subject of building energy codes. Ms. Troll agreed with Mr. Gundelfinger.

D. CBJ Land Management Plan – Kate Bevegni asked if there were anything JCOS needed to look at and when the plan was supposed to be completed. Tim Felstead said the Planning Commission want to review it first and that JCOS feedback was probably warranted from a sustainability viewpoint. Mr. Felstead added that some members of Lands would give a presentation to JCOS if we wanted. Clint Gundelfinger motioned that we request a presentation on the Land Management Plan. Ms. Bevegni seconded.

E. Auke Bay Plan – Kate Bevegni said the Auke Bay Plan had been adopted but there were still steering committee meetings being held regarding the design aspects/guidelines: zoning, set-backs, viewsheds, etc.

F. Web Page Update – No new information.

VI. Information Items

A. Green Team – Presentation drafted to be taken to city Engineering and Public Works Departments.

B. City Liaison Report – Covered under Action Items; recommendation for a full-time CBJ Sustainability Officer.

C. Items Up For Assembly Action – No new information.

D. Committee Reports

i. Solid Waste /Bio-solids – See Action Item A, Update On Bio-Solids/Solid Waste

ii. Energy – Further Energy Plan work at next work session.

iii. Outreach/Accountability – No new information.

iv. Green Team – See above information item.

VII. Meeting adjourned at 7:15? P.M.