

City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ)
Juneau Commission on Sustainability
(JCOS) Meeting Minutes
December 10, 2014
Downtown Library Large Conference Room

I. Meeting called to order at 5:36 P.M.

Present: Lisa Weissler (Chair), Beth McKibben (CBJ Staff Liaison), Kate Bevegni, Duff Mitchell, Ben Haight, Darrell Wetherall, Steve Behnke, Clint Gundelfinger

Visitors: Tim Felstead (CBJ Department Community Development)

II. Special Announcement: Lisa Weissler has accepted a policy advisor position with the Alaska Governor's Office and will be resigning as JCOS Chair and member of JCOS; this is Lisa Weissler's last meeting.

III. Minutes of October 8, 2014 approved. Minutes of November 25, 2014 Special Meeting approved.

IV. Public Participation: Joe Lassiter, Catherine Walsh, Shellie Walsh. Mr. Lassiter expressed concern about the bio-solids project stating that there is better technology available than what had been proposed. Ms. Weissler responded that the JCOS had addressed some of these issues in the letter of advisement to the CBJ Assembly.

V. Action Items

A. Building Codes & Energy Efficiency – Ms. Weissler suggested that the next step might be to work with the Building Commission to establish energy codes. Mr. Haight stated that generally international (energy) codes are reviewed to fit the needs of a particular community about every 3 years; Ketchikan, Fairbanks, Anchorage are adopting international (energy) codes. Mr. Haight suggested that the JCOS review international energy codes and have a discussion with Charlie (Ford) about adjusting them to fit our community. Mr. Behnke commented that we need to put in some work on this issue to be credible before making any recommendations and suggested that we have a work session for energy codes. Ms. McKibben questioned whether an energy code work session should be a full-committee (entire JCOS) or a sub-committee work session. Mr. Mitchell suggested that any energy code work session should be a full-committee work session due to the expanse of expertise available from members of the JCOS. Ms. Weissler and Ms. Bevegni both suggested a January work session. Mr. Mitchell stated that such a work session may require flexible scheduling to which Ms. McKibben replied that the JCOS can have work sessions at times other than the regularly scheduled time.

B. Scheduling 2015 Annual Retreat – It was agreed that Beth McKibben would send out a "round-robin" email for members to decide if we should schedule the Annual Retreat meeting on January 24, 2015 or January 31, 2015. Ms. McKibben requested that any recommendations for projects in 2015 or anything to be considered a priority should be sent to her.

C. Auke Bay Area Plan – Ms. Bevegni stated that the Plan draft was being finished so we (JCOS) would have the opportunity to comment. Ms. Bevegni suggested reading the draft Plan and going over any comments during the January meeting.

D. Green Team Update – Ms. Bevegni stated that the Green team had put together a presentation regarding the Climate Action Plan and delivered it to and talked with CBJ Directors. The next step is to deliver a presentation to entire Departments. Ms. McKibben commented that feedback regarding the presentation was good. Mr. Behnke suggested that the Green team look for things the Departments are interested/involvement in that they can connect with as an approach to deliver presentations suited to their specific Department. Mr. Mitchell inquired as to how we can support any positive feedback and suggested capturing the information (feedback) and making it available to the webpage; perhaps a bulleted summary with periodic updates. Ms. Bevegni stated she would put together any feedback.

E. Web Page Update – It was suggested that a summary of the Green Team presentation feedback be accessible on the webpage. Mr. Haight stated that the new Soboloff Center received a high LEED rating and wondered whether we should showcase that kind of project on the website. Mr. Haight also suggested that the website offer information regarding individual housing or small housing development use of geothermal technology. Ms. Bevegni inquired if anyone had looked at the cost difference of building housing with geothermal systems versus traditional heating/cooling systems.

VI. Information Items -

A. City Liaison Report – Ms. McKibben suggested a tentative training with the Deputy City Clerk for February, 2015.

B. Items Up For Assembly Action – A Special Meeting of the CBJ Assembly is scheduled for December 22, 2015 to discuss bio-solids.

C. Committee Reports

i. Solid Waste – An advisement letter was sent to the CBJ Assembly.

ii. Energy – Ms. McKibben referred to a review committee for RFP for the energy plan.

iii. Comprehensive Plan Update – Ms. Weissler commented that the Comprehensive Plan had evolved into energy codes and that we need something in the plan to reflect where it is going and that perhaps this is something that can be picked up again during the 2015 year.

VII. Meeting adjourned at 6:48 P.M.