

Climate Change and Sustainability Advisory Committee

August 8, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Introductions

Present were Chairman Tim Lattimer, vice Chair Michael Cornell, and members Jeffrey Williams, Tracey Manning, John Klein, Chiara D'Amore, Rachel Matney, Bob Marietta, Sara Via, and Julian Levy. Also present was CA Energy Manager Jeremy Scharfenberg, CA Environmental Program Assistant Danielle Tyeryar, and CA Board Member Virginia Thomas.

Overview of Meeting Purpose

Sub-Committees to identify possible initiatives to recommend to the CA BOD as the Committee's focus areas for the coming year.

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Tim Lattimer.

Sub-Committee Breakouts (45 min.) Sub-Committees separated at 7:18 pm. Committee reconvened at 8:00 pm

- Community Engagement – Sara Via, Co-Chair; Chiara D'Amore Co-Chair
- Climate Change Mitigation – John Klein, Chair
- Climate Change Adaptation & Resiliency – Bob Marietta, Chair

Old Business

- Sub-Committee Read-outs on Possible Recommendations to the CA BOD
 - Mitigation: 3 program initiatives
 - **Overview** of existing information and programs from CA, county, state, federal, and academia with regards to land (land use and transportation), air (emissions), water (stormwater and water use), and waste management.
 - Determine a **baseline** by identifying gaps, monitoring programs, parameters
 - **Monitoring** and maintenance based on adaptive management criteria and sustainability
 - Adaptation: long term outlook
 - Conduct an initial assessment to determine key climate risks and recommend priority actions
 - Focus on the big picture, from the micro to the macro (i.e homeowner to world) in an effort to position CA as a model community
 - Outreach: Primary goal is to position Columbia as a model community and build on CA's existing reputation.
 - Engage the public. Committee should have a presence at the Climate March on September 8th. Also develop a suite of programming and education about climate and sustainability over the next two years. Also ask for weekly social media posts by CA, web page with monthly topics and action items for residents, and a monthly sustainability/climate change column in CA newsletter.
 - Meet with each village board and plan an event in each village over the next year.

- Host a summit for like-minded organizations (see list on Google Drive).
Facilitate a workshop.

- Select Committee Secretary

The committee discussed the idea of rotating the Scribe responsibility between members. Bob Marietta offered HCC interns as an option for recording future meeting minutes. **Motion:** HCC interns will type meeting minutes into the agenda – Chiara D’Amore motioned; Julian Levy seconded. All approved.

New Business

- Student Member

The committee discussed the option of inviting a student (previously applied to the committee) to join the committee as a “Student member.” It was decided that the student member would be invited to join the Community Engagement sub-committee rather than creating a student member position on the Advisory Committee.

- Discuss potential for a fourth subcommittee focused on sustainable community growth

A fourth subcommittee for Sustainability was discussed. Some were anxious that separating into a fourth sub-committee would be spreading too thin. Options were suggested, such as inviting other applicants to join the sub-committees, or merging the Climate Change adaptation and mitigation groups, and adding sustainability, in favor of keeping three sub-committees. Others felt that would be detracting from the overall group goals. Julian Levy will draft notional bullets with a link to the charter for the proposed Sustainability sub-committee. The group decided to table a formal vote on a Sustainability sub-committee until the September meeting.

- STAR Community Rating System as a Possible Benchmark (see <http://www.starcommunities.org/>)

Using the STAR Community or Sustainable Maryland certification systems as a benchmark could provide quantifiable goals, even if certification for the Columbia Association is not possible (due to HOA /non-profit status). The committee can adopt a model, like STAR Community Rating system, and work towards certification.

It was also discussed tying the STAR rating and Sustainability sub committee into one group, with a proposal due prior to the September meeting.

- Other New Business?

Encourage CA’s board to keep an eye on lobbyists with Climate issues and identify key pieces of legislation.

Logo – Add Committee name under existing CA logo (but not edit existing)

CA Board meeting on October 11 is an opportunity to present ideas and request funding for the FY20 year (beginning on May 2019)

Confirmed next meeting: Sept. 12, at 7pm