



Climate Change & Sustainability Advisory Committee

Subject	Monthly CCSAC Meeting		
Date, Time, Location	04/13/2022, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom		
Facilitator	Tim Lattimer, Chair	Scribe	Kim Drake

AGENDA

OR

MINUTES

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84620033029?pwd=emdyTUQvNS9zVjRMc0wzbE1kaTc2QT09>

Committee: Tim Lattimer, Kim Drake, Roberto Martin, Bob Marietta, Katherine McCarter, ,
Julija Sajauskas, and Sara Via. CA Staff: Jeremy Scharfenberg

1. **Call to Order & Approval of Agenda**
Unanimously approved
2. **Resident Speak-out**
N/A
3. **Old Business - March 2022 Meeting Minutes**
Unanimously approved
4. **New Business**
 - **CA Staff & Board Liaison Updates**
 - CA is working in a U.S. Dept. of Energy partnership on electrification, includes a swim center solar project and installing dual-fuel heat pumps.
 - Jeremy will present CA's progress on clean energy & GHG reductions at DOE's "Better Buildings, Better Plants Summit" in May.
 - CA launched a new Facebook group, [Sustainable Columbia | Facebook](#).
 - **Climate Vulnerability Assessment**
 - The Committee considered possible next steps to carry forward the CVA effort in Wilde Lake Village. Drainage & flooding issues were among the key issues raised in our March 5 community meeting with WL stakeholders.
 - There is still a gap between the planning level information in the CVA "Story Map" and more granular-level information on key impact areas of concern. Points to a need for further engagement with the community.



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- Should include a focus on specific stakeholder groups (e.g., faith community & schools).
 - The Committee should also circle back to the WL Village Board (after new WLVB members are elected), recognizing that several current WLVB members participated in the March 5 CVA workshop.
 - The Committee may also seek to engage relevant organizations (e.g., "CARES" groups) in other villages that may want to explore the CVA "Story Map" and provide additional data points or ground-truthing of the map.
 - Further steps on the CVA remain to be defined & finalized in conjunction with preparing our draft Charge for FY23.
 - Tim noted that the County's Environmental Sustainability Board (ESB) will launch its Climate Action Plan update process tomorrow at 7:00 p.m. (Click [here](#) for link to the ESB meeting.) The Committee will look for opportunities to inform and help track that process given our CVA work in Columbia.
- **Electrification:** an issue of growing interest in several areas. Also, the WLVB Chair recently conveyed correspondence regarding challenges to installing EV charging stations in existing neighborhoods. Committee members held divergent views as to whether this Committee is well-suited to help address the electrification issue vs. devoting more effort on community engagement and motivating residents to take pragmatic climate action in their own spheres of influence. One possibility is to incorporate it as a theme in future community engagement, even if it's not the Committee's role to "do" electrification work.
 - **Other Team Updates**
 - **Yards Alive:** Katherine reported that the Oakland Mills YA group recently held a well-attended webinar on low impact landscaping. They secured \$500 in grant funding from the OM Board for regenerative landscaping demonstration plots at two cul-de-sac locations. YA is organizing virtual and in-person yard tours in May, as well as another "plant share" event (including edibles).
 - **Community Engagement:** Sara reported that three Committee members (Sara, Tracey, & Tim) were among the five presenters in last month's widely attended "Virtual Lecture Series" organized by the [Howard County Legacy Leadership Institute on Environment \(HoLLIE\)](#) around the theme of "Our Changing Climate: Science, Policy, Justice, and How We Can Respond." Sara and Tracey will huddle later this month to scope out ways to further engage the public and inform/motivate people to act on climate.
 - **Local Development:** Bob reported on the County's progress with its "HoCo by Design" effort. The first of five themes this effort addresses "dynamic neighborhoods. For more, see: [Draft Chapter Release: Dynamic Neighborhoods | HoCo By Design.](#)



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- **Potential recommendations for FY22 Annual Report / FY23 Charge:** Committee members agreed to add suggestions and edits to a shared copy of the draft annual report, with a view to finalizing the report at our May 11 meeting and submitting it ahead of CA's May 19 deadline for the CA Board's package.
- **New Member Recruitment:** With the confirmed departure of three Committee members, Kim reported on recruitment sub-committee's efforts to recruit new members. The sub-committee met in March and will again in two weeks determine our committee needs, develop an updated call for applications, and coordinate further with CA staff on the process. The aim is to bring in new members from traditionally under-represented sectors of the community and to strengthen the Committee's skill sets in key areas.

5. Action Item Recap / Announcements / Look Ahead (5 mins)

ACTION: Committee to add to recommendations for FY22 Annual Report / FY23 Charge (before May 19).

Bob announced that HCC is planning its next "Campus Sustainability Day" for October 19. He exhorted the Committee to plan on participating as part of its community engagement.

Kim announced that she's in the process of being named to the County's ESB, but she intends to remain on this Committee, as well. With Brooke Abercrombie already serving on both organizations, we will have the benefit of two Committee members serving as a bridge to the ESB.

6. Adjourn / Next Meeting – May 11, 2022, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom