

## MINUTES

Juneau Commission on Sustainability  
Wednesday, November 4, 2009, 5:15 pm  
Downtown Library, Large Conference Room

- I. Chair Sandy Boyce called the meeting to order at 5:20pm. Also in attendance: Sean Lynch, Dan Miller, Eva Varadi Bornstein, Bob Doll, Catherine Fritz, Alida Bus, Beth McKibben (staff)
- II. No Agenda changes
- III. Minutes of October 7, 2009 meeting approved.

### IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A. Doug Dobyns – Environmental Planner with Douglas Indian Association. Doug's interest is in increasing participation and partnerships with the City on recycling issues. For example, recently he developed a program to recycle gill nets that would have been disposed of at the landfill (estimate of up to 25% of wasted nets). They have also helped initiate recycling on the ferries. Doug is also interested in Climate Change and applauds the CBJ for adopting the 20% reduction in greenhouse gases. He has worked with regional tribes to challenge them to model their efforts like many of the cities in the US. Tribal Leaders Summit will be scheduled in 2010 and will include environmental issues.

Commissioners had several questions related to the details of the gill net recycling program. Net cost for shipping the old nets south to be recycled is about .08 per pound. Kirk noted that he is a fisherman who sends his used nets to Mexico for use in small villages.

Regarding Climate Change, Doug noted that he has used JCOS information to work with tribal leaders to understand what's happening locally with Climate Change. Beth noted that energy efficiency block grants have also been received by tribes in Alaska.

B. Kirk Hardcastle, fisherman and personal interests in sustainable energy and power; also involved in Taku Renewable Resources. He has been studying turning fish waste into fuels. He has recently been hired by Alaska Center for Energy and Power to serve as a SE Alaska representative to look at technologies and economic strategies. He also began a program last summer of recycling the waste vegetable oil from cruise ships in Juneau.

C. Darren Snyder, UAF Cooperative Extension Service. Darren recently attended an Integrated Pest Management conference. The inter-connected issues of climate change were discussed and strategies are being developed to address potential impacts to Juneau and the SE region. CES has developed a short video, produced by KTOO about community gardening. This will soon be posted on the CES website. CES held a Youth Camp with a focus on sustainable foods. Has begun a composting program with worms; working with high school youth. Darren has \$10,000 available for sustainability topics, for after-school type programs – funds must be expended by June 2010.

### V. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Beth offered to check on the sunset date for the JCOS ordinance. Bob suggested that JCOS offer an opportunity for input, ideas for possible changes to the JCOS make-up, function, etc.

B. Items up for Assembly action (Bob)

1) Solid Waste Management/Recycling: Bob asked what role the JCOS would like on this issue. Two important issues (cost and mandatory trash pickup) are the main discussion. Plasma conversion of waste to electrical power has been added to the discussion. Bob suggested that JCOS might want to write a letter articulating our position on curbside recycling. Dan asked if the plasma project would be applicable on a regional level – Bob replied that it has. Kirk added that he favors organic decomposition options

over mechanical solutions. Catherine asked what process has been used to explore no cost or incentive options for individuals regarding recycling. Bob was not aware of anyone who has approached the recycling program in this manner. It was agreed that JCOS would draft a letter to the City Manager requesting that an analysis of how much improvement could be done without specific increased costs to residents. Beth noted that the link to the plasma information <http://www.plasma-wr.com>

It was agreed that Sean would work with Beth to invite appropriate CBJ staff to discuss the solid waste and recycling challenges to the JCOS at the December meeting. Once the presentation has been made, the JCOS may choose to form an ad-hoc committee to make recommendations on solid waste and recycling.

2) Resolution Adopting GHG Targets: Resolution adopted Monday night, using the JCOS recommendations:

- Establish the baseline year (from which we will calculate future emissions quantities) as of 2007, the date of our Emissions Inventory;
- Schedule the next inventory for 2012 (as of 30 June) and an inventory interval thereafter of 3 years;
- Adopt a strategy of focusing the community's efforts on Buildings, Equipment, Greens Creek, and Highway Transport, and set Air and Marine Transport aside for the time being;
- Set 2012 reduction targets for CBJ of 1% and 20% for the larger community;
- Commit to competing a Climate Action Plan for the community in FY 2010;
- Endorse the JCOS proposal for a GHG Emission Reduction award program.

3) Non-Motorized Transportation Plan: Ordinance passed by Assembly without objection.

#### C. Focus Area Reports

- 1) Energy/GHG Subcommittee: Alida reported that they met on Monday. She also noted that they participated in the Energy Fair and got some public input via a survey. Gail has data. Committee members are also working with UAS graduate class on an energy project. Students will be preparing a report on a project ("mini-climate action plan") and are interested in making a presentation of their work to the JCOS in January. Sean and Alida schedule this presentation.
- 2) Food Subcommittee: no report
- 3) Outreach: Eva reported that Catherine and she met with the Farmers Market planning committee met in a wrap-up and identified tasks for groups to take on next year. JCOS will take the lead on educational program (mini-seminars). A new chapter of "Slow Foods" has formed in Juneau and Eva will attend; she will distribute a summary of the meeting to the JCOS. Kirk shared his experience with a Slow Foods event in California and reminded everyone that fisheries are a part of that effort.

D. Bioneers Conference Report: Alida participated in a community sustainability workshop and sent the email report to JCOS members prior to this meeting. She encouraged JCOS members to follow the links to learn more, and suggested that the JCOS might benefit from a list-serve.

#### VI. ACTION ITEMS

LEED Juneau Ordinance: Beth introduced the draft ordinance and said that there are currently different approaches as to where the ordinance should be located (title 49 or title 19). Dan commented that there is likely the need to have a mandated standard to get better buildings constructed. He had some specific recommendations and asked for clarification on the meaning of "NGBS." It was guessed that this is a "sister" standard by another organization; Beth will check. It was agreed to refer this draft ordinance to the GHG/Energy Committee for review and ask them to bring it to JCOS for discussion at the next meeting.

#### VII. ADJOURNMENT at 7:20pm