

Agenda
Juneau Commission on Sustainability
Wednesday December 4, 2013, 5:30pm
Downtown Library, Large Conference Room

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Jenni Lefing, Kate Troll, Amy Skilbred, Steve Behnke, Duff Mitchell, Lisa Weissler, and Darryl Wetherall. Jenni Lefing kept the minutes.

Others present: Staff Liaison Beth Mckibben

Public: Alex Kirchoff and John Dunker

I. CALL TO ORDER

Steve Behnke called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm.

II. AGENDA CHANGES

- Lisa asked to add Southeast food issues to the outreach section of the agenda.
- Kate Troll referred to the Tourism Best Management Practices letter that was referred to in the Oct. 2, 2013 minutes, and suggested that be added as an action item under Solid Waste in the agenda.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of October 2, 2013 were approved with the following change: add Amy Skilbred to those that were present at the meeting.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Alex Kirchhoff, high school student, noted that he was there to listen.
- John Dunker stated that he has an interest in sustainability. He found that [Juneau's] local electrical utility is no longer locally owned, and wondered if the [JCOS] energy subcommittee is interested in it, and if there has been any discussion by JCOS about it.
 - Steve noted that we do have an energy committee, that Duff Mitchell chairs. At this time, the committee is working on a Scope of Work for an energy plan. Duff encouraged John to be involved in the process as it evolves.

V. ACTION ITEMS

A. Election of new Chair

- Kate Troll, former JCOS Chair, is the new assembly liaison to JCOS. Therefore, a new chair needs to be decided. Typically, the election of a new chair happens in February. It was decided to select a temporary chair and vice chair, and to have elections in February. Steve Behnke, will continue serving as temporary chair, and Darryl Wetherall as temporary vice-chair until the February election.

B. Web Page Update

- Success Story for Sustainability in Juneau- It was noted that anyone can post to the JCOS Facebook page, and send items to to Beth to post to website.

- C. New regular meeting date (forever)
 - JCOS meetings will now take place on the second Wednesday of each month, starting January 8, 2014.
 - Work sessions will take place the fourth Wednesday of each month.
 - The 2014 retreat will be Sat. Jan 25 9 am- 1 pm. Location to be determined.

- D. New meeting dates for December (12/18 currently)
 - No work Session 12/18

- E. Improving how JCOS provides input into City Projects
 - Beth stated that the city has to re-think how we think about things, to incorporate sustainability.
 - Lisa stated that she would like JCOS to rewrite sustainability section of comprehensive plan, and asked if this would be a place to build in how to communicate.
 - Beth noted that the Comprehensive Plan will be updated in two years.
 - Beth noted that JCOS can have input through the city manager's office.
 - Kate Troll noted that to provide input on city projects, the earlier in the process the better, and it should happen before an RFP goes out.
 - It was noted that CBJ has no energy manager for the city. Energy audits have been done, and know one is using them.
 - It was suggested that JCOS develop a "boiler plate" for RFP's around sustainability issues.
 - i. This could include questions such as how to implement items from the Juneau Climate and Implementation Plan
 - ii. Amy and Duff will draft boiler plate language for how a project can address JCAP recommendations. They will give an update on this at the January meeting.

- F. Mendenhall Valley Library Project
 - It was noted that JCOS didn't seem to have much opportunity to weigh in input.
 - Kate suggested writing back letter back to them that they did make the modifications
 - Darryl and Steve will write the letter- to Nathan and to Robert Barr.
 - At the last work session- came to follow-up on change sand updates to projects.

VI. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. City Liaison Report:

- The City and Borough of Juneau has a new Comprehensive Plan effective as today. There are no printed copies yet, and it's not yet on the CBJ webpage. It was noted that the energy chapter was updated with changes, while the Sustainability chapter did not have many changes.

B. Items up for Assembly Action:

- Kate Troll explained her role now, as the Assembly Liaison. She noted that she would let JCOS know of any items that we should be aware of, and encourage two-way communication. Right now- she said she is focused on learning as much as possible, and asked to be informed of anything the commission as a whole wants to communicate.

C. Committee Reports

i. Education & Outreach Liaison

- Lisa noted that someone in Juneau recently got a grant for food security in Southeast Alaska. She is going to produce a report in the next month, and Lisa thought it would be good to have her come to JCOS to present her report to. Commission members agreed. Lisa will follow-up.

ii. Energy Committee

- Duff, chair of Energy Committee, noted that he is not sure what is happening with the city request and RFP. Beth noted that CBJ allocated \$40,000 for the development of an energy plan, which will come from the RFP that the Energy Committee put together. She also noted that Rob Steedle wanted two JCOS members to be involved in the RFP approval process, once RFP's come in, which will most likely happen the first half of January. Duff, Amy and Steve expressed interest.
- Tomorrow (December 5), the Willoughby District will be talked about at the JAHC at 4:30 pm. There will be a presentation on the heating district.
- Duff also noted that through the JEDC Energy Cluster, a meeting has been set up with with Senator Egan's office- about funding for a heating district study.
- At the Southeast Conference Energy Committee Meeting, Representative Peggy Wilson, Senator Egan, and others were present, which shows that energy is a "hot topic" region wide.

iii. Solid Waste Committee

- Amy asked what the next steps are after Arrow Refuse spoke at the October JCOS meeting.
- Kate B. has been the solid waste point person, but it is unknown when she will be back in Juneau.
- Duff will draft a thank you letter to thank those from Arrow Refuse that attended the recent JCOS meeting.

Other Business

It was noted that work from committees needs to come across the commission first before going out, which didn't happen with the JCOS letter about the Valley library project.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 7:03 pm.

