

City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ)
Juneau Commission on Sustainability (JCOS)
Meeting Minutes
June 10, 2015
Downtown Library Large Conference Room

I. Meeting called to order at 5:34 P.M.

Present: Steve Behnke (JCOS Chair), Tim Felstead (CBJ Liaison), Bob Deering, Kate Bevegni, Amy Skilbred, Duff Mitchell, Greg Smith, John Smith, Clint Gundelfinger (JCOS Secretary)

Visitors: Greg Fisk – EV downtown circulator awaiting budget approval

II. Agenda Changes – Add Action Item F CBJ Bus RFP, move Action Items E and G to Outreach/Accountability subcommittee.

III. Minutes of the May 13, 2015 meeting approved.

IV. Public Participation –Hal Hart (Director, CBJ Community Development Department)

V. Action Items

A. Annual Report – Add additional support information to Green team section; Tim Felstead will make the amendment and submit the final version. Duff Mitchell motioned to approve the JCOS Annual Report; Amy Skilbred seconded the motion.

B. Airport Sustainability Master Plan – There was an Airport Plan meeting June 9, 2015 attended by Bob Deering. Next steps include establishing a baseline from a sustainability perspective. The next meeting may integrate focus area comments with a basis on future embarkments according to the following categories: commercial, smaller commuter, on-demand-passenger (tourism): tourism and shopping growth expected to increase 60% over the next 20 years. Greg Smith inquired about looking at any future fees based on increases in traffic; Mr. Deering replied that some revenues from various streams were based on the number of passengers.

C. Review on Feedback to Building Advisory Committee – Feedback from Charlie Ford regarding the JCOS letter sent to the Building Code Advisory Committee in January regarding updating code to reflect commercial structure energy usage/conservation. According to Charlie, the Committee was reluctant to change standards due to the resultant costs and suggested a meeting between JCOS and the Building Code Advisory Committee. JCOS engaged in a group discussion on how to move forward. Duff Mitchell moved that Charlie Ford help JCOS facilitate a meeting; Clint Gundelfinger seconded the motion.

D. Update on Energy Plan – Next meeting scheduled for June 24, 2015. Duff Mitchell and Amy Skilbred suggested there be some meeting efficiency measures. JCOS engaged in a group discussion regarding the Stantec suggestions to date and it was decided to inquire of Stantec about current strategies in relation to end products (deliverables).

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E. CBJ Bus RFP – Advertisement for long-term bid contract for CBJ buses went out but was for diesel engine buses only. JCOS was not even aware of the RFP before it was issued and therefore did not get the opportunity to comment. Duff Mitchell received a response to Rorie Watts’ EV bus issues from Proterra which addressed and dispelled Mr. Watts’ concerns. Bob Deering stated that the CBJ may be risk averse and inquired about financing options where the supplier takes the risk. Amy Skilbred raised the question as to where the money comes from. As a follow up action after receiving the response from Proterra, Mr. Mitchell provided a prepared a resolution requesting that the City Manager and related city staff pull, revise, and re-issue the CBJ Bus RFP to allow all bus technologies to fairly and non-discriminatorily compete for CBJ Capital Transit Buses. JCOS discussed Mr. Mitchell’s resolution and although all agreed on the content it was decided that the resolution format might be too abrupt and forceful. Amy Skilbred moved to take the information from Mr. Mitchell’s resolution and draft an official JCOS letter to the City Manager’s Office and cc the CBJ Assembly; Bob Deering seconded the motion. Hal Hart offered suggestions on how to go about getting the letter to the right place to effect its purpose.

VI. Information Items

A. City Liaison Report - information embedded throughout other items.

B. Items up for Assembly Action – N/A

C. Committee Reports

i. Solid Waste /Bio-solids – composting work group committee being formed. Waiting on a report from Michele Elfers and Jim Penor regarding the composting conference.

ii. Energy – See above Action Item regarding the CBJ Bus RFP.

iii. Outreach/Accountability – lunchtime talk with Greg Fisk regarding the EV Downtown Circulator. Mr. Fisk also offered to deliver a JCOS only meeting if we so desired. It was suggested that perhaps Proterra (at their cost) could deliver a presentation on the EV buses. Greg Smith suggested that we develop a list of potential speakers. Suggestions for the 4th of July parade included the use of a mixture of types of electric vehicles by Duff Mitchell; JCOS advertising the JCOS website from Kate Bevegni; Hal Hart finding a way to promote EV buses.

iv. Green Team – no new information.

VII. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 P.M.