



Eugene Sustainability Commission

Commission Retreat Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 21, 2019 - 5:30 p.m.

Campbell Community Center

155 High St, Eugene, OR 97401

Sustainability Commissioners In Attendance: Chair-Kelsey Zlevor, Vice-Chair Zach Mulholland, Howard Saxion, Ralph McDonald, Art Farley, Greg Ringer, Laura Allen, Louisa de Heer, Julia Johnson, Doug Edwards, Jon Kloor

Staff: Jason Dedrick, Chelsea Clinton, Mark Nystrom

Starting time

Chair Zlevor called the meeting to order. She led the Commission in an ice breaker activity centered around how climate change effects their lives. Some of the thoughts and themes shared:

Children and family

- Is it safe for my children to go outside and play in the summer because of heat.
- I think about the future world for my children.
- I feel I can't travel because of ghg emissions.
- I am concerned when I go grocery shopping.

Nature

- I see stressed trees in the city parks.
- I worry about forest fire danger.
- I am concerned about the lack of snowpack and the smokey air

News

- I worry when I watch the news
- I am concerned when I read what the science is telling us

Working Agreements

Chelsea Clinton quickly lead the group through a discussion of the working agreements. These agreements are available on the Sustainability Commission Website.

Chair Zlevor offered a couple of "parking lot items" for the Commission to consider in the future:

Roses, Thorns, Buds

Jason led the commission through a discussion of their "roses, thorns, and buds." Roses represent the celebrations or victories, thorns represent those items that act as limitations, barriers, things that aren't working, and buds are new ideas, opportunities, and new ways of thinkings. Each Commissioner had an opportunity to put any thoughts on a sticky note and posted on the wall. Then Chelsea and Jason organized the three areas into themes.

Roses

- Outreach/public Input
- Updated working agreements
- Policy Input on Natural gas, CAP2.0, plastics, and food waste.
- Efficient meetings
- Connections with City Council
- Each area broke into themes

Thorns

- Cap
- Turst/value/Progress
- Getting stuff done
- Process

Buds

- CAP2.0
- Outreach
- Emergency preparedness
- Process
- TBL

Jason then led the commission through a discussion regarding outreach. He asked each Commission to list both their worst outcomes and best outcomes for continuing public outreach. He started asking them to share their worst outcomes.

Worst Outcomes

- Public storms city hall (increased awareness leads to a yellow vest style uprising)
- Talking supplements doing
- Miscommunication
- Overcommitment
- Spending time to get the same answers (nothing useful)
- Time burn
- Open up to criticism that we did not “do outreach right”
- No one responds
- City finds out no one cares about sustainability and the Sustainability Commission dissolves
- Miss under represented people
- Fails to
- Usual suspects
- Opinions do not help with solutions
- No unity in the community
- Delay in action
- Can’t satisfy all opinions

Best Outcomes

- Hear the public
- More time to address community concerns
- Greater acceptance

- Inclusion of broader community values
- Get new ideas/proposals
- Public awareness of Sustainability Commission goals
- Building support for Sustainability/City efforts
- Diverse community members
- More involment in future
- Sustainability commission has something
- Broad community supportbased on timely action by council
- Public awerness
- Get the community pulse
- More community
- Sustainability Commission trusts the Sustainability Commission more
- Eugene leads
- Fresh insights/new perspectives
- Represent all of Eugene
- Batter serving councilors
- Building relationships
- Undeniable policy agenda
- Addresses Sustainability blind spots (representation)
- Strong sense of purpose
- Community buy in
- New ideas grounded in community
- Getting good ideas to take to the City Council
- Turn ideas into solutions
- Build public pressure for action through education
- Council and sustainability Commission responds to public demand for change on key issues
- Better awareness and appreciation of the Sustainability Council
- Help us to fine tune role

The Commission then pivoted to a discussion of what they intended by “public outreach?”

Break

FY2020 Work Plan Development

Chelsea asked the Commission to write down three ideas for the FY2020 Work Plan. The Commissioners then shared those ideas: (each * indicate an additional supporting opinion)

- **Outreach/engagement pilot **Kelsey, Julia, Laura**
- *****CAP2.0—Collaboration with Lane County **Howard**
- **Waste reduction (food waste) **Ralph, Art**
- **Business relations (outreach) **Doug**
- **Transportation policy (active transit/EV) **Howard, Zach**
- Energy used in buildings policy **Zach, Howard, Laura**
- Air quality **Louisa, Howard**
- Disaster preparedness (water, enrgy) (*within climate resiliency*)
- 5G (*tabled for now*)
- Urban forestry/HB2001 **???**
- *Climate resiliency (chronic problem) **Art**

- Research around other cities' CAPs
- Outreach around consumption
- Follow up on last year
- EE→urban reserve
- Track event policies
- Aerial spraying
- Dietary choices to potentially impact climate change

There was a discussion about if there are any items on the list that could be tabled or taken off. Then a discussion followed who would be interested in participating in each committee. The list above includes those who were interested. The first person listed will be the chair of that committee.

The Commission decided to organize the proposed ideas into five categories:

1. CAP/Climate Mitigation Policy
2. Outreach
3. Climate Resiliency Policy
4. Follow-up from last year
5. Areas for further research
6. Emerging issues.

At this point the Commission agreed it was time to adjourn.

Adjournment