



SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING

City Hall Council Chambers, 1000 San Pablo Avenue
Wednesday, September 17, 2014 – 7:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Blanchard at 7:32pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Blanchard, Cooper, Smith-Heimer, Uhrhammer, Wei, Yiu

Members Absent: None.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approve minutes from July 16, 2014 meeting

Approved.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Rev. Julie Waklee-Lynch, pastor at St. Alban's Episcopal Church, spoke as a representative of the Diverse Housing Working Group (DHWG). She and Catherine Sutton will take turns attending meetings to be involved in committee discussions that overlap with housing.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS

- Update on At-Large Committee Appointment

Claire Griffing provided an update – The application for Ron Golem will go to Council for approval on October 6th.

- Update on HERO & CaliforniaFIRST PACE Programs

Griffing provided an update – The CaliforniaFIRST residential PACE program has launched and the HERO program will launch in November.

Griffing also provided flyers for a commercial energy outreach program and an upcoming home energy workshop.

Committee Member Smith-Heimer and her husband will be speaking at the City's Affordable Housing Symposium on September 30th.

Committee Member Cooper installed a gray water system in his home.

6. DISCUSSIONS AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON MATTERS RELATED TO THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

A. General Plan Update and Discussion

The Committee received a summary of comments from the last meeting and discussed next steps. The Committee thought the comments reflected their discussion and asked to see other relevant plan elements.

B. Outreach Subcommittee Update on Green Coalition

Committee Member Smith-Heimer announced that Albany resident Chris Beynon of MIG will be the pro bono facilitator of the first Coalition meeting. She is working on a draft invitation, and Committee

Member Cooper asked for more information on the invitation and suggested more strategic outreach for the event. Committee Member Uhrhammer and Chair Wei are drafting a list of organizations to invite. Staff will send invites via email and manage the RSVP list. Staff will look for open dates in November.

C. Community Choice Aggregation Update

Griffing provided an update – Staff was forced to forfeit the CCA research grant based on constraints put in place by the world wildlife fund over the summer. MCE is still open to Albany joining their CCA in the future, but the City will have to pay for the membership analysis. At the time, staff is working with the County to support the development of an East Bay CCA. County staff is currently obtaining load data from all cities in the county for the feasibility study, which they will pay for. Albany has given them permission to use load data. It is clear that GHG reductions (not just renewable energy) and price are the two main goals of this project. They're also interested in encouraging union labor, local jobs, and in-county renewable energy generation. Committee members were disappointed about the loss of grant funding, but open to working with the County on an East Bay CCA.

D. Discuss CAP Implementation Plan and the Possibility of Updating the CAP Target

Vice Chair Blanchard discussed the possibility of updating the CAP to include a long range target, possibly carbon neutral by 2050. Staff offered to research other city's long-range targets and draft a statement they can take to Council when they update their work plan in early 2015. The target is something that could be folded into the General Plan and added to the CAP as an amendment.

E. Discuss Schools Subcommittee

Committee Member Yiu asked for help from Committee Members on High School energy projects, and Committee Members Smith-Heimer and Cooper offered to help. They would like to include the new high school club in the Green Coalition.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Possible Future Agenda Items for Discussion:

- a. Tracking embedded emissions in the CAP
- b. Subcommittee effectiveness
- c. Sea level rise presentation
- d. Water harvesting, residential gray water, and lawn free yards
- e. Lending libraries and clothing swaps
- f. Developments
- g. Parking study
- h. Discuss near-term CAP priorities - Update on where initiatives are

The Committee discussed future agenda items, including a continued discussion of updating the CAP target and near term priority setting, as well as an update on the Green Coalition and forming a subcommittee to plan the Arts & Green Festival.

A. Next regular meeting – October 15, 2014

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:48pm.