

**TOWN OF FAIRFAX  
CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE (CAC)  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE, TIME, PLACE:**

Tuesday, November 17, 2020, 7:00 PM, via Videoconference

**PURPOSE OF MEETING:**

Regular Monthly Meeting

**ATTENDANCE:**

CAC MEMBERS PRESENT: Walt Vernon (Chair), Jody Timms, Bruce Ackerman (Council Member), Stephanie Hellman (Council Member), Joanne Lasnier (Secretary), Jen Hammond, Chris Lang

CAC MEMBERS ABSENT: David Haskell, Kiki LaPorta,

GUESTS: Richard Hamer, Beth Verdekal, Kara Spencer, Laura Vernon, Chance Cutrano

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

- Meeting called to order 7:05 pm.

**2. ROLL CALL**

- See above.

**3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

- Approved text to be added to CAC Agendas: *The Fairfax Climate Action Committee acknowledges that we are located on the un-ceded ancestral lands of the Coast Miwok people of present-day Marin County. We honor with gratitude the land itself, and all of its ancestors: past, present, and emerging.*

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING**

- Approved.

**5. OPEN TIME FOR PUBLIC EXPRESSION**

- N/A

**6. APPROVAL OF OCTOBER REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

- Approved with minor edits.

**7. MCEP UPDATE – KARA SPENCER**

- Kara reported on latest Marin Climate & Energy Partnership (MCEP) meeting: Marin agencies, towns and cities to respond to Marin Grand Jury climate change report; Mill Valley mentioned appointing a full time sustainability coordinator; Corte Madera looking to go for full carbon neutral for town; PG&E gave updates on how they're targeting customers for PSPS and working to improve experience. Kara planning to attend MCEP meetings regularly, and also attend CAC meetings with updates to improve connection with town

staff and MCEP. Joanne to add Kara to distribution of agenda and minutes. Laura Vernon and Chris Lang recommended regular collaboration and cooperation with other Marin town CACs and councils to work on ordinances.

## 8. SELECT CAC VICE CHAIR

- Joanne volunteered to act as interim Vice Chair.

## 9. SCHEDULE ANNUAL CAC RETREAT

- Proposed December 19 and January 16 for CAC Special Meetings to create 2021-2022 Action Plan and prepare for meeting with Town Council and Staff to review revised Climate Action Plan, 2021-2022 Action Plan and related budget requests to present to Town Council in March.

## 10. A3/SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

a. Complete Fairfax Climate Action Plan (CAP) update: (Timms, Ackerman, Hammond, Lasnier, Community Members Laura Vernon and Beth Verkedal)

i. Accomplishments:

1. Christine O'Rourke added data to CAP draft

ii. Goals for next month

1. Continue editing CAP draft: Edit adaptation section per Christine's recommendation, continue editing strategy intros

iii. Help needed

1. Feedback from CAC on CAP strategies

b. Build Community Engagement and Support (Hammond, LaPorta, Timms)

i. Accomplishments:

1. MCE Banners are displayed in Fairfax

ii. Goals for next month:

1. Set up "thermometer" graphic in Excel

iii. Help needed: N/A

c. Implementing Ordinances (Vernon)

i. Phase out gas-powered landscaping equipment: follow San Anselmo's lead, Chris commented that electric equipment not feasible for some areas where landscaping work is done.

i. Accomplishments: N/A

ii. Goals for next month: N/A

iii. Help needed: N/A

d. Microgrid project (Ackerman)

i. Accomplishments: Working with Gridscape and MCE on design, not ready for 2020 PSPS/fire season but working on modified design for next year.

ii. Goals for next month: N/A

iii. Help needed: N/A

## **11. RESPONSE TO MARIN COUNTY GRAND JURY CLIMATE CHANGE REPORT**

- Reviewed Walt's draft of responses to each finding and recommendation, referring to Novato's responses; CAC members provided comments and edits for each.
- Create subcommittee of Walt, Bruce, Jody to finalize draft, due to Town Manager Garrett Toy November 18.

## **12. NEW BUSINESS**

- Jody recommended we invite Alex from Drawdown to give short presentation to Town Council on Drawdown actions, possibly for January Council meeting, Jan 20.
- Corte Madera – 12-14 member CAC (mostly community members) now working on climate emergency resolution, as well as adaptation plan with funding.
- Suggestion to amend Fairfax climate resolution to say “carbon neutral” rather than “zero emissions.”

## **13. ADJOURNMENT**

- Meeting adjourned 9:00 pm.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED** by Joanne Lasnier, Secretary