

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

**DATE, TIME, PLACE:**

Tuesday, January 19, 2021, 7:00 PM, via Videoconference

**PURPOSE OF MEETING:**

Regular Monthly Meeting

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

- Chair Vernon called meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

**2. ROLL CALL**

- CAC MEMBERS PRESENT: Walt Vernon (Chair), Jody Timms, Bruce Ackerman (Council Member), Stephanie Hellman (Council Member), Joanne Lasnier (Secretary), Chris Lang, Beth Verdekal
- CAC MEMBERS ABSENT: David Haskell, Kiki La Porta, Jennifer Hammond
- GUESTS: Garrett Toy (Town Manager), Dana Armanino (Sustainability Planner for Community Development), Laura Vernon, Jenni Sommeillan, Michelle Rodriguez

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

- M/S: Lang, Vernon, Motion to approve the Agenda and Affidavit of Posting  
AYES: Vernon, Timms, Ackerman, Hellman, Lasnier, Lang, Verdekal

**4. LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

- *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.*

**5. OPEN TIME FOR PUBLIC EXPRESSION**

- No comments.

**6. DISCUSSION WITH GARRETT TOY AND DANA ARMANINO REGARDING DIFFERENT APPROACHES TOWARD BUILDING ELECTRIFICATION**

- Dana Armanino gave a presentation outlining three main options available to jurisdictions who want to adopt an ordinance for building electrification:
  - Option 1 – Adopt County template Electric Preferred ordinance
    - Need to demonstrate to CEC requirements are cost-effective
    - All documents for Council and CEC are available from County
    - Would need to be updated with next CA Building Code Update in 2023 (updates are done every three years)

- Option 2 – Adopt an All-Electric Ordinance
  - Example/Template: San Francisco’s Ordinance adopted in 2020
  - Justification for adoption is health and safety
  - Does not require CEC cost effective justification
  - Potential legal implications
- Opportunity Now – Promote Electrify Marin to all residents
  - County/BAAQMD sponsored rebate program
  - Rebates available for replacement of natural gas equipment with high efficiency electric units
- Discussion followed to clarify each option, hear what other local jurisdictions are adopting, understand potential challenges, such as lawsuits, pushback from community, defining remodel trigger point.
- M/S: Hellman/Lang, motion to adopt Option 1.
- Upon further discussion; Hellman/Lang motion withdrawn; more discussion of Option 2, with the health and safety approach, which, once adopted, is complete, no need for further studies or updates to match CA updates.
- Bruce recommended phased approach: New construction first; then significant remodels; then replacement of existing appliances. Allows for time to engage community. Also noted: heating for home and water is biggest use of natural gas; ranges, dryers, etc. have less impact overall.
- Outcome: current CAC Resolution to Council stands (recommending all-electric for new construction)
- Community Engagement subcommittee will play key role in promoting strategy

**7. MCEP REPORT – KARA SPENCER**

- Kara unable to attend January MCEP meeting; will send minutes when available.
- Garrett noted he can ask Ben Berto to attend in her place if she is unavailable for future meetings

**8. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER REGULAR AND SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

- Deferred; minutes not available

**9. A3/SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES**

- Deferred until February regular meeting

**8. REVIEW 202-2021 ACTION PLAN**

- Deferred until February regular meeting

**9. REVIEW CAP ROLLOUT TIMELINE - TIMMS**

- Jody walked through proposed timeline:
  - February 10: First draft of CAP included in February 17 Town Council meeting packet (assuming Mayor Ackerman can add this to February 17 agenda)
  - February 10: CAP draft available on website for public comment
  - February 17 Council meeting: CAC to give 10-minute presentation on CAP to Council and request date for CAC/Council “Summit” meeting to discuss CAP in detail (hopefully by April 1)
  - By mid-March: Update CAP draft with public feedback for review at Summit meeting (date TBD)
  - After Summit meeting: Updated CAP available on website for additional public comment (until mid-May)
  - May 24: Final revised CAP delivered for inclusion in June 2 Town Council packet

- June 2: Council to vote on accepting updated CAP

**10. DISCUSS HOW RECOMMENDATIONS FLOW FROM CAC TO TOWN COUNCIL AND STAFF - ACKERMAN**

- Deferred until February regular meeting; change “flow” to “protocol” for agenda item title

**11. NEW BUSINESS**

- N/A

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

- M/S, Vernon/Lang/: Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 p.m.  
AYES: Ackerman, Hellman, Timms, Lang, Verdekal, Vernon, Lasnier

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED** by Joanne Lasnier, Secretary