

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

**DATE, TIME, PLACE:**

Tuesday, August 17, 2021, 7:00 PM, via Videoconference

**PURPOSE OF MEETING:**

Regular Monthly Meeting

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

- Chair Vernon called meeting to order at 7:08 pm.

**2. ROLL CALL**

- CAC MEMBERS PRESENT: Walt Vernon (Chair), Jody Timms, Bruce Ackerman (Council Mayor), Stephanie Hellman (Council Vice-Mayor), Joanne Lasnier (Secretary), David Haskell, Kiki La Porta, Chris Lang, Jennifer Hammond
- GUESTS: Greg Smith (West Marin Climate Action), Mitch Greer, Laura Vernon

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

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

**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**

- Laura Vernon acknowledged press coverage for Fairfax climate-related efforts
- Mitch Greer commented on electric vehicle goals, interested in hearing more

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JULY REGULAR MEETING**

- Postponed until September regular CAC meeting

**7. MCEP UPDATE – TOWN STAFF**

- No report this month; Bruce and Stephanie can request minutes; Bruce reports Fairfax is working with San Anselmo to hire shared Sustainability Coordinator, who could be MECF rep for both towns.

**8. TRANSPORTATION SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES – TIMMS**

- Joanne reported on current CA “Cash for Clunkers” program - \$1000 cash available for any who meet basic requirements, \$1500 for those who meet low-income requirements. Also reported on Bay Area Clean Cars for All program – Fairfax residents not eligible at this time.
- Jody to meet with Jonathan Goldman (public works director) re: developing plan for a Fairfax Town EV fleet and current inventory of Fairfax EV chargers, possible locations for additional chargers.
- Stephanie researching renewable diesel
- Re: possible gas station ban or moratorium for Fairfax; proposed adding to future CAC agenda
- Age Friendly Fairfax planning a climate-related event at Fairfax Library; would CAC like to co-sponsor?
- Checking with local auto repair shops re: what EV services they offer or plan to offer
- Possible Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) funding decision postponed. Re-submitted proposal to TAM for funding supporting ZEV promotion; waiting on response
- Proposed CAC hold ZEV car/bike show in Fairfax Parkade September 26; promote October 3 Ride and Drive Clean ZEV show. Proposal accepted, Jody going ahead with planning.

## **9. ENGAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES – VERDEKAL**

- (Walt reporting for Beth) Would appreciate contributions/ideas for CAC blog
- Jen can provide further information on EV rebates and incentives; Walt and Jen to work together.
- Created YouTube channel for CAC; looking into producing videos, possibly also run 30 second promos at Fairfax Theater (Beth researching. Per Kiki, cost is a consideration.). Perhaps a high school film class project; Mitch also offered his video/design skills.
- Consider tabling monthly at Fairfax Farmers Market; Walt has improved banners, etc.
- Planning tabling for September 19 Town Picnic, 12-5; Jody secured table for Emergency Preparedness (Firewise/NRG); we can share that table with CAC, CAC can promote September 26 Fairfax EV car show. Will need volunteers for both efforts. Will refer promotion/related CAC tasks to Engagement Subcommittee, Bruce and Stephanie to lead effort.

## **10. BUILDING DECARBONIZATION SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES - VERNON**

- All-electric ordinance: Noted the short-term exemption for affordable housing currently underway will not be an issue long-term. First reading in August; second reading will be at September 1 Town Council meeting. Effective date moved from July 2022 to March 2022.
- Clarification on timing for approval of Solar Coop and Water Conservation Program proposals asking for ARPA funds: Per Bruce, CAC can continue to review/revise proposals for approval at September 21 CAC regular meeting, then present to Council.
- Solar Coop proposal:
  - Concerns raised about complexity of proposal; who would set up and administer over time?
  - Action: Building Decarbonization Subcommittee will draft a summary by August 25 for the September 1 Council meeting packet. Council will discuss and consider current ideas, summaries, and proposals for use of ARPA money on September 1.
  - Action: Building Decarbonization Subcommittee will continue to work on proposal and present revised proposal for approval at September 21 CAC regular meeting.
- Public comment: Laura Vernon noted similar working models exist around the world; consider holding onto the idea even if ARPA money does not come through.

## **11. REVIEW WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM**

- Laura Vernon presented overview of the Water Conservation Proposal, which outlines a program for Fairfax that could be adopted by other Marin jurisdictions. Supports community outreach and education encouraging water conservation, supplements what Marin Water does, given they are set up more to respond to community needs rather than effectively engage and educate communities. Marin Water supports this proposed program. Still working on \$ ask for ARPA.
- Stephanie emphasized extreme urgency of water conservation; Marin Water needs help from all Marin communities to meet conservation goals.
- Walt suggested (given limited time for comments) CAC members send comments on water proposal to Stephanie, Laura and Nina, who will continue work on the proposal draft.
- Jody raised concerns about current strength of Sustainable Fairfax, and effort required to recruit, manage, and retain volunteers needed to implement and maintain the program.
- Bruce suggested setting a more moderate \$ ask, and to check with Town Manager Adam Politzer on Monday re: submitting a draft for September 1 Council meeting packet (due Wednesday August 25).

## **12. CAC ANNOUNCEMENTS & AND NEW BUSINESS**

- Kiki referred us to 2021 IPCC report and urgency of taking action to repair and protect ecosystems and biodiversity all around the planet.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

- Chair Vernon adjourned the meeting at 9:03 p.m.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED** by Joanne Lasnier, Secretary