

# TOWN OF FAIRFAX

## CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE (CAC)

### REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

#### DATE, TIME, PLACE:

Tuesday, May 17, 2022, 7:00 PM, via Videoconference

#### PURPOSE OF MEETING:

Regular Monthly Meeting

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

- Chair Timms called meeting to order at 7:20 pm.

#### 2. ROLL CALL

- CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Jody Timms (Chair), Bruce Ackerman (Council, Acting Secretary), Stephanie Hellman (Council Mayor), Mitch Greer (Vice Chair), Nina Luttinger, Joe Hewlings, David Haskell, Kiki La Porta, Arthur Lueck (Youth Member)
- CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Chris Lang
- STAFF: Sean Youra
- Guests: Beth Craig, Kathleen Gundry

#### 3. 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.*

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

- M/S Luttinger/Hewlings to approve the agenda  
AYES: all

#### 5. OPEN TIME FOR PUBLIC EXPRESSION

- No public comment

#### 6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM APRIL REGULAR MEETING

- Acting secretary Ackerman stated that Chair Timms had offered minor corrections
- M/S Haskell/Luttinger to approve  
AYES: All

#### 7. DISCUSSION WITH STAFF - SEAN YOURA, CLIMATE ACTION COORDINATOR

- Landscape Equipment Electrification Ordinance – Staff report for Council finalized, waiting town attorney's input on draft ordinance. Sean has reached out to local landscapers and found that many are already using electric equipment and are happy with the performance. Many are keeping gas-powered as backup for larger

jobs. The only real complaint with the electric is the need for multiple batteries. Has worked with Augie at Fairfax Lumber; the cost is about the same for electric models, or in some cases less expensive.

- Sean will recommend that exemptions to the ordinance be temporary and granted on a case-by-case basis; permanent exemptions not necessary because the availability of electric alternatives keeps improving. He is recommending a compliance date of 1/1/2023, for Town equipment as well as residents'.
- AB1826/SB1383 has been taking much of Sean's time. Getting all multifamily buildings to have composting opportunities. Lots of staff work, and therefore hoping to find an intern or fellow to help.
- TAM is offering funding for innovative EV charging, Vehicle-to-grid and related. Sean submitted a list of potential Town needs for TAM consideration. Joe asked about the BEAM ARC, which was on that list, and Sean confirmed that at the time of the list submittal it wasn't as clear as it is now that the BEAM would not be a viable option for police and DPW charging, due in part to lack of solar irradiance in the corp yard or even in the lot between the Fire station and Community Center.
- Jody asked about a possible electric street sweeper, possibly shared with San Anselmo. Sean has begun to explore. Nina suggested looking at conversion of an ICE street sweeper to electric, and Sean said the current one is non-functional.
- MCE is looking into several ways to assist in electrification.
- Jody asked about publicizing the landscape equipment ordinance, and about the electrification requirement for new construction on the web site to inform potential builders. Sean agreed these needed to be done.
- No public comment

## **8. COUNCIL REPORT**

- Councilmember Ackerman reported that the funding recommendations from CAC were largely included in the budget (which will next go to a public hearing before adoption), with the exception of the large ARPA proposal.
- Councilmember Hellman clarified that ARPA funding has not yet been discussed by the Council.
- Regarding the potential ordinance for electrification of buildings upon substantial remodel, Sean said this could be more costly to enforce (Mark Lockabee will need to quantify this cost), and that the County is hoping to get all jurisdictions to move together. Jody requested an update next month.
- No public comment

## **9. REVIEW OF 2021-22 ANNUAL PLAN**

- Request reiterated by Jody for all members to submit accomplishments by June 1st in preparation for Annual Report to Town Council (in July or August).
- Discussion of which current goals will likely be carried over into next year was tabled
- No public comment

## **10. DISCUSS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVES**

- Mitch briefly showed a mockup of a CAC website on Squarespace. Sean asked who would maintain that site, and reported that Town Manager Abrams had suggested having CAC and other town committees all under the Town website. Mayor Hellman thought staff didn't have the bandwidth for that and thus CAC outreach and community education would be hampered. Councilmember Ackerman said he would talk with Heather.
- Beth questioned why considering moving from Weebly.
- CAC could walk in the Fairfax Parade, and all agreed to try to be there.
- No public comment

## **11. COMMUNITY ACTION**

- Chair Timms suggested that, instead of the current three standing subcommittees, the CAC move to use of ad-hoc teams for specific projects. Some discussion.

- M/S Haskell/Hewlings to disband the standing committees and encourage members to join ad-hoc task groups. Ayes all.

## **12. SCHEDULING A CALgreen HCD PRESENTATION**

- M/S Luttinger/Greer to schedule a CALgreen presentation on June 13 as a CAC-Sponsored event, but not as a Special Meeting. Ayes all.

## **13. ANNOUNCEMENTS & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Joe would like to review a comprehensive list of incentives for electrification.
- Renew 21-22 Annual Action Plan and consider what gets carried over.
- Jody suggested discussing, after checking with Town Clerk, the use of Google Drive. Beth said there is a Gdrive currently.
- David is looking to form an ad-hoc team to examine the Womens Club to get an overall view of work needed.
- No public comment

**ADJOURNMENT:** Chair Timms adjourned the meeting at 9:11 p.m.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED** by Bruce Ackerman, Acting Secretary