

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

**DATE, TIME, PLACE:**

Tuesday, September 19, 2023, 7:00 PM, at the Fairfax Women's Club

**CALL TO ORDER**

- Chair Timms called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**ROLL CALL**

- CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Jody Timms (Chair), Sheryl Shakeshaft, Patrick Costello, Liz Gottlieb, Bruce Ackerman (Council Liaison, Acting Secretary)
- CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Joe Hewlings (Vice Chair)
- STAFF: Sean Youra, Climate Action Coordinator
- GUESTS: Justin Housman

**LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

- Was read

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING**

- Motion to approve the agenda and affidavit of posting. AYES all.

**OPEN TIME FOR PUBLIC EXPRESSION**

- Justin Housman expressed support for the CAC's activities, and stated that he was interested in bicycle infrastructure. CAC members suggested that he apply for membership in the committee to update the Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM AUGUST 2023 REGULAR MEETING**

- Motion to approve; AYES All

**STAFF UPDATE-SEAN YOURA, CLIMATE ACTION COORDINATOR**

- A draft of the Fleet ZEV Policy was circulated for comment. State Advanced Clean Fleet regulations are coming which this plan refers to. Director of Public Works Umbertis has reviewed this draft, and San Rafael staff gave helpful feedback which was incorporated. The Plan would create a process and staff committee to insure consistency and long-term planning across all departments. The preference for leasing was discussed; Sean stated that San Rafael leases by default, in part to allow upgrade to better vehicles as they become available. Jody asked that it be mentioned that the CAC recommended the Council take up a fleet electrification ordinance in 2021. This draft plan will hopefully go to Council in November.

- Jody reported that Cartelligent (according to Colleen) could get a discount if jurisdictions pooled an order for three F150 Lightning trucks.
- The EV Acceleration Strategy work plan will be circulated to staff for feedback and then brought to CAC and then Council.
- There was discussion about the Council's recent mention of reconsidering the CAC goals, in particular the current 100%-by-2030 goal.
- The next meeting on the county Building Electrification Plan is coming up. A new webpage is up, including a list of certified/recommended contractors.
- XeroHome could be a portal for electrification planning.
- WattCarbon provides portfolios for investing in energy improvements – an Energy Marketplace. This could be a local-benefit alternative to use of carbon offsets as specified in the CAP.
- QuitCarbon can stack multiple incentives for electrification; Jody gave an example of a \$9k heat pump water heater costing the homeowner only \$450 in the end.
- Two meetings were held among staff and council representatives in the previous week on the Microgrid and Pavilion projects. One was with Pieter Colenbrander of O'Mahony & Myer, who proposed that there be three microgrids for the town buildings rather than one large one. This made sense due to the limitations of the size of service PG&E can provide, and will be explored further. One such microgrid could be the Women's Club, the Community Center and the Corp Yard – all of which are currently without backup of any kind. At the second meeting a Critical Needs Exercise was done on the Pavilion. It was suggested that the Community Emergency Preparedness Committee give input to the Critical Needs.

#### **TOWN COUNCIL UPDATE**

- Bruce reported that the ban of expansion/new gas stations will, according to staff, be on the October Council agenda.

#### **CHAIR'S REPORT**

- Jody discussed comments from a few citizens during Council meetings about the CAC, apparently in opposition to climate action in our town. CAC members hope and expect that Council will not give in to climate denial.
- Members were asked to spread the word about the Youth Poster Contest.

#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVES**

- Sheryl has been talking with a possible new intern, from the Sea-Disc program at AWHS.
- Sheryl reported pricing for some items that could be given away or sold at CAC events, and will provide more details to members.
- Topics were discussed for Town Newsletters, including the induction cooking demo, part of the East Bay Green Home Tour

#### **TRANSPORTATION INITIATIVES**

- All agreed that the EV/eBike Show went very well!

- Orange Outlet – Sheryl is in conversation with two apartment managers, and a survey of their residents is planned.

#### **BUILT ENVIRONMENT INITIATIVES**

- Discussed quickly due to Joe's not being in attendance. See above regarding the meetings on the Microgrid and Pavilion.
- The induction cooktop loaner program is continuing.

#### **SEQUESTRATION INITIATIVES**

- The items on the agenda were briefly reported on, including the County's composting/sequestration plan.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- The next meeting will be October 17. The November meeting date might be changed to the 15<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup> – members could be surveyed by email or Doodle Poll. The January retreat date also could be set.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Chair Timms adjourned the meeting at 9:06pm.

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