

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

**DATE, TIME, PLACE:**

Tuesday, May 16, 2023, 7:00 PM, at the Fairfax Women's Club

**PURPOSE OF MEETING:**

Regular Monthly Meeting

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**2. ROLL CALL**

- CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Jody Timms (Chair); Joe Hewlings (Vice Chair); Sheryl Shakeshaft; Bruce Ackerman (Council, Acting Secretary)
- CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Patrick Costello
- STAFF: Sean Youra, Climate Action Coordinator; Paul Whang, fellow (by phone)
- GUESTS: Liz Gottlieb; Neil Kraus

**3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

- Was read by Mr. Hewlings

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

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

**5. OPEN TIME FOR PUBLIC EXPRESSION**

- None.

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM APRIL 2023 REGULAR MEETING**

- M/S to approve; AYES All

**7. STAFF UPDATE –SEAN YOURA, CLIMATE ACTION COORDINATOR**

- Sean presented the EV Acceleration Strategy developed by MCEP, and also available on the MCEP website. Christine O'Rourke will be presenting it to Council on August 2, and prior to that it will be discussed in detail at the MCL Climate Working Group meeting 5/19 (which will be recorded). CAC will review it in more detail at the Aug.15 meeting.
- The Fairfax Climate and Environment section of the Draft Town Budget was reviewed and discussed. One item, adoption of SolarApp+, is expected to save both residents and the Town money by automating permitting for Solar; other related permitting might be added to this app in the future.
- E-Bike charging (120V outlets) was discussed; Paul is investigating bike lockers, which can have charging outlets included, as bike security appears to be a greater barrier to e-bike usage than public charging. Ebike rebate programs to be developed.
- Investigation is underway for EV charging stations on some streetlight poles. FLO chargers for this purpose are Level 2 and can be wired to the electrical within the pole.
- The Orange Outlet pilot was discussed; Sheryl is preparing to do outreach to several multifamily housing providers in town, with a priority on low-income housing such as Bennett House and Victory Village.

- SB1383 Implementation: Staff is preparing the required report to CalRecycle. Zero Waste Marin is taking on a lot of the enforcement, particularly around edible food recovery.
- A residential audit last year showed that 40% of the contents of landfill carts is still organic matter. The committee discussed the importance of residents getting their organic waste, including food scraps, into green carts.
- TAM was working on a bikeshare program, but the company selected went out of business. Work will continue, as the grant is still available.
- MCEP Update: Resilient Neighborhoods is providing quarterly reports.
- The Town website has a page describing the foodware ordinance, and also a page on landscape equipment electrification including the rebate program.
- Paul reported on the Town Fleet Electrification Policy he is working on. It will focus on equity, education, outreach, leading by example, charging infrastructure deployment, and standardizing charging station access. Paul stated that New York City has electrified their police fleet, but the Mach-E still has significant limitations around its cabin size.

## **8. TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON UPDATE – (public comment)**

- Council Liaison Ackerman reported that a revised ordinance to ban future gas stations is expected to be on the June Council agenda.
- A Bidirectional EV Equipment resolution has not yet been scheduled for consideration, but Bruce will follow up on its timing.

## **9. CAC AD-HOC SUBCOMMITTEES**

- Jody proposed that an Engagement Subcommittee be headed by Sheryl, a Built Environment Subcommittee be headed by Joe, and a Transportation Subcommittee be headed by Patrick. Further subcommittee work will be discussed at a future CAC meeting. Liz may lead on sequestration if appointed to CAC in June.

## **10. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVES**

- Upcoming schedules for tabling at Good Earth were discussed.
- The Fairfax parade was discussed; Chair Timms reported that at least one EV and Ebike should be in the parade, and that Resilient Neighborhoods and 350Marin will participate, among other groups including San Anselmo CAC.
- It was agreed to purchase a banner of a size suitable for the parade, out of FY2022-23 CAC funding, with the CAC and Town logos and “Climate Action Now”.
- An organization, Quit Carbon, could be available to present to the public in the future, in person or via webinar. Their powerpoint can be viewed online.
- Chair Timms put forth the idea for future consideration that the CAC website be focused (with possibly a renaming) on resources for the public, while all CAC documents would be hosted on the Town website.
- Discussed how best to utilize summer intern Katherine Ritter and Lucie Martikan.

## **11. BUILT ENVIRONMENT INITIATIVES**

- Joe Hewlings stated that the data from a the survey of residents regarding resilience was helpful but does not represent a wide spectrum of residents. Offering the survey again in the fall will be considered then.
- The draft report from the recent Town Buildings Electrical Assessment and Microgrid Study, commissioned by Public Works Director Umbertis, was discussed. Sean is reviewing it; Councilmember Ackerman stated that it was informative, and he will provide a copy to Joe for review.

## **12. TRANSPORTATION INITIATIVES**

- An EV Car and Bike show will be Sunday August 27 from 10-1 at the Fair Anselm parking lot. Congratulations to Chair Timms, as this has been a goal she has worked toward for years! Sean will check with Police to see if they can help secure the parking area late Saturday night.

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

- The Marin County Fair June 30-July 4 will have the theme “Electrify!”. If interested in staffing a table (CAC will not have its own table), contact Dana Arminino or David Moller.
- Future items: EV Acceleration Strategy, and Town Fleet Electrification Policy will be on Aug.15 CAC agenda.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Chair Timms adjourned the meeting at 9:07pm.

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