

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

DATE, TIME, PLACE:

Tuesday, January 13, 2015, 7:00 PM, Fairfax Community Center

PURPOSE OF MEETING:

Regular Meeting

ATTENDANCE:

CAC MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Bruce Ackerman (GPIC); Secretary Cassidy DeBaker, (GPIC); Vice Chair Jody Timms (Community); Kiki La Porta (Community); David Haskell (Community); and Jennifer Hammond (Community).

CAC MEMBERS ABSENT: Barbra Coler (Mayor)

GUESTS: None

ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN PRIOR TO THE NEXT MEETING:

- K. LaPorta to revise website logo for next regular meeting.
- J. Hammond to update on Sustainable Fairfax website and CAC page.
- B. Coler and J. Hammond to update CAP Scorecard-GHG Reduction Actions.
- B. Coler to list out relevant town ordinances (adapted from the scorecard) that can be added to the website.
- J. Timms to provide abbreviated notes from September and C. DeBaker will format and send to Michele Gardner for posting.
- D. Haskell to investigate the Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations for Building Energy Efficiency Standards as well as the San Rafael Green Building Guide

1. CALL TO ORDER

- Chair B. Ackerman called the meeting to order at 7:05PM.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- Approved January 13, 2015 Agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

- Approved December 9, 2014 Meeting Minutes with few minor changes.

4. PUBLIC EXPRESSION TIME

- None

5. REPORT ON WEBSITE

- K. LaPorta to revise logo based on input from December 2014 meeting.
- B. Coler to list out relevant town ordinances (adapted from the scorecard) that can be added to the website.
- Explore “tag line” ideas at next meeting.
- J. Hammond to give an update on the status of the website with Sustainable Fairfax.

6. REPORT ON LED STREET LIGHT RESEARCH

- C. DeBaker summarized the history of LED street light program in the downtown area. Will work with Garrett Toy (Town Manager) to focus on completing the downtown street light replacement project that was initiated in 2010 when Michael Rock was the Town Manager:
 - Grant was received from the California Energy Commission as part of the EECBG Awards (April 7, 2010). Fairfax was granted \$38,178 to replace high pressure sodium vapor decorative lamps in streetlights with higher efficiency options including induction or light emitting diodes (LED).
 - Town opted for acorn-style LED fixtures. Originally was scoped to replace 66 street lights but it appears that approximately 36 were replaced in the downtown along Center and Bolinas.
 - LED lights are easily discernable from the older type of lighting, which have a yellowish glow. You can walk downtown and see the difference.
- B. Ackerman and K. LaPorta mentioned that Lindsey Hassett is a good person to contact about LED lighting-she is a local lighting consultant and is knowledgeable about grants and savings programs (lindsey@theledlady.com).
- J. Timms mentioned that some LED street lights have a dim feature that are triggered by motion.
- B. Ackerman would like to see LED street lights not just in the downtown but also in residential neighborhoods.
- K. LaPorta referenced the dark sky initiative and possible related funding.
- K. LaPorta suggested that if the community reported on street light outages than that would be a good place to start with LED replacement (good outreach opportunity).

7. DISCUSS MARKETING IDEAS TO BE OFFERED TO MCE

- Top 4 initiatives to offer to MCE:
 1. Waive Deep Green fees for one year to the first 100 households that sign up for Deep Green. This can be presented as a pilot program in Fairfax.
 2. Work with the Fairfax Chamber of Commerce to encourage local business to switch to Deep Green-MCE offers free advertising/decals. CAC may work with businesses to calculate the potential savings that MCE has over PG&E. D. Haskell is working with the Chamber to encourage a “green” emphasis.
 3. Work with schools in Fairfax to get them to switch to Deep Green (e.g., Cascade Canyon, St. Rita’s, Wise Academy, and Manor).

- 4. Solar system/array-switch to Deep Green.

8. DISCUSS ANNUAL ACTION PLAN PROGRESS

- J. Timms will revise Annual Action Plan to include the top 3 Emissions Reduction Measures (ERM): 1) ERM 17-Marine Clean Energy, 2) ERM 22-Green Purchasing, and 3) ERM 23-Food and Green Waste and send to C. DeBaker.
- C. DeBaker will submit Annual Action Plan to GPIC.

9. PLAN FIRST EDUCATION SNIPPETS TO TOWN COUNCIL

- CAC agreed to present “Education Snippets” at regular Town Council meetings.
- D. Haskell will report on behalf of the CAC at the January 14, 2015 Town Council meeting and will highlight MCE/Deep Green and the Pace Program.
- K. LaPorta feels that CAC updates to the Town Council and public will create awareness.

10. UPDATE ON POSSIBLE CLIMATE SUMMIT

- Local Climate Event to be held at the Women’s Club and hosted by CAC on a Saturday May 2015 (possibly 10am-11:30am).
- J. Timms discussed the event with Christine O’Rourke (MCEP) and Jim Moore (Town Planning Director) but will need to revisit the idea and start planning.
- MCEP (Marinclimate.org) launched an interactive website showing the results of towns/cities efforts to reduce GHG emissions. There is a sustainability map that allows you to track and compare community progress.
- CAC would like to invite MCE, Resilient Neighborhoods, 350marin.org, Sustainable Fairfax, and possibly community speakers associated with local projects such as the Carbon Project and/or Fibershed.
- C. DeBaker suggested Nick Tipon from the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to talk about the effects of climate change on archaeology and the protection of tribal and sacred sites in Marin/Sonoma counties.
- B. Ackerman suggested climate change art exhibit. C. DeBaker mentioned getting local schools involved and the Town’s artist in residence (Soya Rose).
- K. LaPorta suggested we participate again in the Fairfax Festival and Streets for People and allow time to plan and prepare; possibly an evening event.
- J. Timms shared the idea “before I die I want to” and how that might translate to an art event about climate change.

11. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS AND UPDATES

- D. Haskell shared information about the Carbon Project/John Wick and highlighted the following ideas:
 - Range land for sequestration
 - Efforts to reverse carbon
 - Homeopathic approach-compost heals

- Feeding the food you eat
- Organic fraction-clean harvest and collection
- Dairy/forestry industry has the capacity to make carbon neutral
- Broom-remove before seeds, utilize chipper days (C. DeBaker said that the Fire Department recently purchased a chipper)
- J. Timms suggested that we realign our list programs on the CAC flyer/handout.
- K. LaPorta brought up the idea of having a paid coordinator to support CAC-or an intern. Sustainable Fairfax has an intern (ask J. Hammond) and the Town recently used an intern from UC Berkeley (ask J. Moore).
- D. Haskell to investigate the Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations for Building Energy Efficiency Standards as well as the San Rafael Green Building Guide-mandatory green building ordinance in San Rafael (modeled after Green BERST). How do these regulations apply to existing buildings/homes?

12. NEXT CAC MEETING

- The next CAC meeting will be on the regular date of the second Tuesday of the month, February 10, 2015 at 7:00 PM, at the Fairfax Community Center.

13. ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 PM.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED by Cassidy DeBaker, CAC Secretary

DISTRIBUTION:

Draft minutes were emailed to: CAC members

Approved minutes will be emailed to: CAC members and Michele Gardner