COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 1, 2022
5:00 P.M.

Committee Members Present: Amber Baker, Christy Robinson, Carter Berry, Allen Smart, Lee Stackhouse, Rajesh Kapileshwari

Committee Members Absent: Denise Terry, Leah Lavin, Jordan Brewster

Attendance of City Staff: Helen Peplowski

MINUTES:
The meeting was called to order by Allen Smart, Chair, at 5:07 pm.

Introduction of members in attendance.

Rajesh Kapileshwari moves to pass June minutes, Amber Baker seconds. June minutes pass unanimously.

Helen explains the new policy approved in June that requires committees to vote on how future meetings will be held, whether in-person, virtual, or hybrid. A brief discussion of the logistics of the hybrid schedule would work. Allen motions that all meetings moving forward will be held in-person with a virtual option available. Rajesh moves to approve, Christy Robinson seconds. Motion passes.

Helen introduces information on the NOAA Urban Heat Island Mapping Campaign for 2023. She explains the campaign involves the volunteer tracking how hot different areas of the city get during the summer and identify differences within the city. She asks the committee to consider agreeing to be listed as a partner for this project in the application. A discussion follows about more details of this program. Allen motions that the committee agree to be included as a partner in the grant application. Lee Stackhouse moves to approve, Rajesh seconds. Motion passes.

Allen led a discussion to review comments from Council Member Mundy, who attended the previous committee meeting. Discussion followed regarding the best way to present items to City Council, including resolutions and information items.

Helen briefly reviewed the two remaining vacant positions on the committee that should be filled shortly.

Allen and Helen reviewed the four ad-hoc subcommittees currently in place. Allen requested the committee work to fill those subcommittees and narrow the focus from all four to two. Committee members selected Climate & Energy and Transportation. Rajesh was selected to lead the Transportation subcommittee with Lee as a member. Carter Berry was selected to lead the Climate & Energy subcommittee with Christy and Rajesh as members. Each subcommittee lead will work with members to establish meeting times prior to the next full committee meeting.
Rajesh introduces work that he has started with local environmental non-profits in the community. Based on feedback he received from those various groups, he is interested in multiple new resolutions for the committee to pursue. First, he recommends the committee work on a zero emission vehicles resolution for the city. Lee asks someone to clarify the interest in propane use for city vehicles and a brief discussion follows about the background of propane tank installations on city fleet vehicles.

Rajesh then recommends asking the city to work on a comprehensive plan to achieve the climate goals from the [100% Clean Renewable Energy by 2050 and Creation of Green Jobs] Resolution passed in November 2020 either through a consultant or an interdepartmental group of staff.

Christy shares about her experience with being involved in the recent resolution passed by the school board.

Amber has some points of discussion. First, if there is another city of a similar size that is further along that they can draw from. Helen is working on a benchmarking report compiling this information into a benchmarking report of other city sustainability work in the state. Amber’s second point is suggesting the committee do some of the leg work to assist the city in keep their work moving forward. Amber has another engagement to get to, so has to leave the meeting.

Christy recommends that the two suggestions from Rajesh fit in to the two subcommittees’ work since they each relate to one.

A discussion followed to clarify the scope of what that comprehensive plan would be that Rajesh mentioned and what efforts are currently underway within the city to plan for upcoming federal grant funding.

Meeting adjourned at 6:17.