

MINUTES

**CITY OF FLAGSTAFF
SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION**

THURSDAY

October 22, 2020

**ONLINE MEETING
MICROSOFT TEAMS**

4:30 – 6:30 PM

1. Call to Order

Chair McCain called the meeting of the Sustainability Commission held October 22nd, 2020, to order at 4:32pm.

2. Roll Call

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chair McCain	<input type="checkbox"/> Commissioner Kauffman
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vice Chair White	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commissioner Konkel
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commissioner Chamberlain	<input type="checkbox"/> (vacant)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commissioner Coffey	

Others present: Dylan Lenzen (Staff Liaison), Lisa Clark (Minutes)

3. Public Comment

Public Participation enables the public to address the Commission on any subject within their jurisdiction that is not scheduled before the Commission on that day. Due to Open Meeting Laws, the Commission cannot discuss or act on items presented during this portion of the agenda. To address the Commission on an item that is on the agenda, please wait for the Chair to call for Public Comment at the time the item is heard.

No public comment

4. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Commissioner Konkel, seconded by Vice Chair White to approve the September 24th, 2020, minutes.

Discussion: None

Vote: 4 – 0 Unanimously passed

5. Business

Minutes
City of Flagstaff Sustainability Commission

A. CAAP Revisions Update (30 minutes)

Nicole Antonopoulos, Sustainability Director, and Ramon "DC" Alatorre, Climate and Energy Coordinator, City of Flagstaff

Requested Action: Informational

Ms. Antonopoulos gave a dry run of a presentation that will be shown to City Council on Tuesday, October 27th to get feedback from the Commission and provide an opportunity to answer questions. The presentation covered the history of the climate emergency declaration and how that is being integrated into the CAAP.

One focus was the path to carbon neutrality. Flagstaff's emissions come primarily from the powering of buildings and the transportation sector, so proposed actions target these two areas in addition to waste systems. Proposed actions are based on a variety of data including the 2016 and 2018 greenhouse gas inventories, best practices from other areas, and direction from City Council. Through the process, it has been suggested that no natural gas be allowed in commercial and residential new construction projects, but this is prohibited in Arizona so other offsets and targets will have to be increased to compensate.

A lot of staff effort has been going in to engaging with the community in a variety of ways. These include giving presentations across Flagstaff, utilizing forums and social media, and re-engaging with the CAAP Steering Committee. The Steering Committee has come to the agreement that the City will need to commit to a big shift, especially to ensure equitability of new measures. There have also been about 500 responses so far to the Flagstaff Community Forum Survey, and the following are examples of themes that have already been identified:

- Rooftop solar is ranked highest for renewable energy sources
- About half of respondents would work remotely on a long-term basis for at least 2 days per week
- Most people indicated that they would participate in a food recovery program

Moving forward, the Climate team will continue to engage with the community and synthesize their feedback, identify which strategies need to be accelerated, and put together 10-year investment and funding scenarios. The updated CAAP will be delivered to Council in February with the intention of revising it consistently as new technologies and data become available. Meanwhile, strategies outlined in the 2018 CAAP are still moving forward including developing an equity review committee, partnering with Solar United Neighbors, and collaborating with City Capital Improvements.

Commissioner Chamberlain asked whether APS's carbon neutrality goal (to be achieved by 2050) will impact the CAAP goals as the timelines are now different. This discrepancy was taken into consideration with the energy scenarios. The hope is that

Minutes
City of Flagstaff Sustainability Commission

there will be a quick integration with APS, but there are still unknowns about whether APS will be able to accelerate their goals or not to match the new CAAP goals.

Commissioner Chamberlain also asked whether the possibility of car-to-grid energy transfer is being considered. Electric vehicles (EV) do provide a great opportunity for utilities as battery storage, so Ms. Antonopoulos expects that there will be more options later on as technology advances as well.

Vice Chair White asked for more information on the strategies being used for increased community engagement. The process has been staged so far as staff began by reaching out to partners in the community to send out to their networks. More recently, there has been advertising in the Arizona Daily Sun, Flag Business News, KNAU and KAFF Country, and on residents' Water Services bills. Vice Chair White suggested also partnering with local schools by asking students to fill out the survey and get their parents to do so as well. This would align with one of the objectives of the Climate Emergency Declaration to commit to educating youth.

Chair McCain gave suggestions and feedback about wording and the presentation itself including making it clear that the CAAP revisions are not complete yet due to the need for more community input as well as adding in a call for community members to take the survey in the presentation itself.

Vice Chair White offered to help with the technical work as needed, and Commissioners will be notified when the agenda item is up during the City Council meeting on Tuesday.

B. Climate Adaptation Working Group Update (10 minutes)

Requested Action: Discussion

Commissioner Coffey gave brief update on the Climate Adaptation working group. Their last meeting was on October 14th, and the next meeting is planned on October 29th. Their current short-term goal is to help drive participation in the survey and help with community education for the Climate Emergency Declaration work. At the next meeting, Ramon "DC" Alatorre and Ms. Antonopoulos will give an overview on how to give the informational presentation to community groups. As Lee Haferkamp was originally a working group member and will no longer be able to participate, Commissioner Chamberlain joined the group.

C. Grant Process Revision Working Group Update (45 minutes)

Requested Action: Discussion & Vote

Commissioner Konkel gave a brief update on the Grant Process Revision working group. They have not met yet due to scheduling conflicts, but the goal is to meet

Minutes

City of Flagstaff Sustainability Commission

before the next Commission meeting to review the feedback presented previously and send a proposal for changes back to the Commission to vote on. Lee Haferkamp was on this group as well but none of the Commissioners in attendance were able to join the working group. Ms. Clark will be reaching out to Commissioner Kauffman to determine interest in joining.

D. FY20-21 Neighborhood Sustainability Grant Update (5 minutes)

Lisa Clark, Community Stewards Assistant, City of Flagstaff

Requested Action: Discussion & Vote

Ms. Clark gave a brief update on the Neighborhood Sustainability Grants. Northern Arizona Climate Change Alliance (NAZCCA) provided a revised budget when they were told they would receive full funding for their project. The budget reflected the following changes from the original:

- Less money allocated for publicity and printing
- Mail expenses were eliminated
- Added in an NAU internship

Commissioner Chamberlain motioned and Commissioner Coffey seconded to approve the requested changes to NAZCCA's budget.

Discussion: none

Vote: 4 – 0 Unanimously passed

E. Bike Share Update (10 minutes)

Lisa Clark, Community Stewards Assistant, City of Flagstaff

Requested Action: Information & Discussion

Ms. Clark gave a brief overview of the bike share project to-date. After a pilot project a couple of years ago, Sustainability has been applying the lessons learned to forge a longer-term contract with a bike share company to provide electric bikes to the City of Flagstaff and NAU. The selected company last year was Gotcha, but they recently backed out of the contract. While not many details were provided, staff at Gotcha cited overcommitment to contracts and supply chain issues as the main causes.

There is no clear path forward yet, but Sustainability and transportation partners from across the City, NAU, and NAIPTA are committed to making this project a reality. The Commission will get more updates as there is more information.

F. Sustainability Section Update (5 minutes)

Dylan Lenzen, Sustainability Specialist, City of Flagstaff

Requested Action: Information

Minutes

City of Flagstaff Sustainability Commission

Mr. Lenzen gave a brief overview of what the Sustainability Section has been working on.

The following in-person events (with precautions) are scheduled:

- Drop-off Day at the Flagstaff Police Department on October 24
- Green Waste Drop-off at three locations on October 24 and 25
- Make a Difference Day at McMillan Mesa on October 31
- Pumpkin Drop-off at the Sustainability Office on November 1

There will be a presentation to Council on October 27 on the MRF contract options and CAAP revisions.

Mr. Lenzen also gave an update on Sustainability programs. Open Space is planning Make a Difference Day and was awarded a grant to remove invasive trees on McMillan Mesa. The Food program is installing new composting infrastructure at the Izabel and Bonito Community Gardens and will also be working with Economic Vitality to incorporate public art into the O'Leary Community Garden. The Climate team is continuing public engagement on the Climate Emergency revision.

Deb Comly, member of the public, asked where the pumpkins will be collected. They will be collected by a partner, Compost Crowd, who are based in the Verde Valley.

Chair McCain requested more information on Make a Difference Day. The event will include graffiti abatement, cleaning up encampments, and improving drainages. There will be more details posted on social media soon.

6. To and From (5 Minutes) – All

Commissioner Coffey mentioned that there will be another Shoe Strike on October 31st.

Commissioner Konkel highlighted that NAU public health students have started a seed library at Cline Library for winter-friendly vegetables. While it is not clear whether the general public is allowed in to Cline Library right now, the seed library is free and available to students.

Chair McCain shared that his father passed away recently due to COVID-19 complications.

7. Future Agenda Item Requests

Minutes

City of Flagstaff Sustainability Commission

- Mr. Lenzen requested clarification on this past request: sustainability and economic impacts of COVID-19
 - This item was brought up by Vice Chair White at a previous meeting. He agreed to clarify if there was anything in addition to what has already been presented to City Council.

8. **Adjournment**

The meeting of the Sustainability Commission on October 22nd, 2020, adjourned at 5:49pm.

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING OF NOTICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the foregoing notice was duly posted at Flagstaff City Hall on _____, at _____ a.m./p.m. in accordance with the statement filed by the Disability Awareness Commission with the City Clerk. This notice has been posted on the City's website and can be downloaded at www.flagstaff.az.gov.

Dated this ____ day of _____, 2020.

Jenny Niemann, Sustainability Commission Staff Liaison