

Climate and Environment Policy Advisory Committee (CEPAC)

Draft Minutes

Aug 08, 2024. 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm
51 Winburn Way - Ashland, Oregon 97520

1. Call to Order

1.1. COMMITTEE MEMBERS-

PRESENT: Sharon Dohrmann, Bryan Sohl, Mark Morrison, Eric Ahnmark, Sidney Brown, Richard Barth **OPEN POSITIONS: 1**

ABSENT: Kip Barrett, Cat Gould, Gary Shaff, Becs Walker, Piper Banks, Kiera Reitz

1.1. CITY COUNCIL: Bob Kaplan

1.2. STAFF: Chad Woodward

2. Consent Agenda

2.1. Minutes-

2.1.1. Amendments-

2.1.1.1. Cat Gould to leave CEPAC in April, not August.

2.1.1.2. Work Study Session on 7/24, Bryan Sohl in attendance.

Motion to approve amended minutes made by Mark Morrison. Seconded by Sidney Brown. Approved unanimously. No discussion.

3. Guest Speakers-

3.1. Erin O’Kelly Muck, Executive Director, Ashland Climate Collaborative- Explained her marketing background and how she came to learn about & begin working with the Ashland Climate Collaborative (ACC). Closed her business to focus entirely on ACC and climate programs. ACC has taken on Community Compost, Electrify Ashland, Streets for Everyone, Water Conservation Network, and Neighborhood Climate Action Network. Currently the ACC’s focus is reducing emissions from transportation, buildings, and food waste, helping residence be resilient to climate change (drought, wildfire & smoke), funding from the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to expand their work & build more visibility and, finally, develop programs to become an essential partner to the City of Ashland to meet the goals outlined in the CEAP. ACC sees itself focused on residences and businesses. Their role is to inform, educate, and help residences prioritize effective steps to reach shared climate reduction & adaptation goals. They strive to make programs affordable & accessible to all.

4. Updates/Announcements

4.1. Council Update –

4.1.1. Chris Byrne, Ashland Co-Op Sustainability Director- Presented the Co-Op’s 2030 vision that was established in 2007. Goals revolve around Carbon Net-zero, Zero-Waste initiatives, Sustainability Relations, and Elimination of Toxic Chemicals. A 248KW array across town. Work with Energy Trust of Oregon to lower natural gas usage & provide internships that are partially funded by Energy Trust. Replacing natural gas appliances with induction and all-electric equipment for their prep kitchen. Front line kitchen and food warmers are planned to be replaced. Work with the EPA’s Green Chill partnership and earned their Best Emission’s Rate recognition

for a small independent grocery store. Discussed Scope 1, 2, and 3 direct emissions. Working alongside Planet Forward to evaluate and categorize the Co-Op's Scope 3 emissions. Lean up day scheduled for N. Mountain Park on August 30th.

- 4.1.2.** Bob Kaplan- July 15 Study Session covered Climate Friendly & Areas focus on staff to inform council of the firm that was hired to assist in ordinance preparation and changes to zoning. Requested State delay the deadline for submitting ordinance. Stimulating dense commercial and residential developments (Railroad Yard, Croman Mills, & Transit Triangle). Business Session Wildfire Risk Map building codes and defensible space zones. Wildland Urban Interface laws have been adopted in Ashland for hardening building codes. Our own defensible space laws have been established for high-risk areas. Endorsed Mayor Graham sending a letter to the state requesting rules to be adjusted to allow Cities to apply higher standards for building codes and defensible space to any area within cities that deem it appropriate.

4.2. Staff Update –

- 4.2.1.** Chad Woodward- RESP loan conversation with DC and Bond Attorneys working on a draft. Full faith and credit cannot be loaned to a business. Energy Efficiency Block Grants have been signed & finalized. Fourth notified that we will be renewing. Home Energy Score awaiting RESP loan finalization. EPA Large Allocation Climate Pollution Reduction Grant was awarded. Attended roundtable Senate Transportation Committee meeting to hear from individuals. Presentation on City-owned greenhouse gas inventory. Minimal update on the clean air ordinance.

4.3. Chair Update –

- 4.3.1.** Bryan Sohl-

- 4.3.1.1.** Membership- Interview Jennie Christopherson

- 4.3.2.** Meeting Time Change-

Motion to change future meeting times to the second Thursday of the month, from 4-6pm, made by Sidney Brown. Seconded by Mark Morrison. Approved unanimously. No discussion.

5. Old Business

- 5.1.** Work Session Update-

- 5.1.1.** Gary Scaff- Small Engines- Moved to September meeting.

6. Adjourn-7:18pm

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Work Session Minutes

August 14, 2024, 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
51 Winburn Wy, Ashland, OR 97520

1. Call to Order 3:00

2. Attendance

2.1. COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Gary Shaff, Mark Morrison, Sidney Brown, Bryan Sohl

2.2. CITY COUNCIL: Jeff Dahle, Bob Kaplan,

2.3. STAFF: Chad Woodward, Kevin Caldwell

2.4. OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS: n/a

2.5. Invited Guest: None

3. Open Discussion - Small Engines

3.1. Gary introduced topic to Kevin, Exploring Regulatory Impact as part of the solution. Share insights, thoughts and how

3.2. Kevin shared, the parks department – no directive to go electric, but want to do the best thing. New Ford Lightning, 2 Mean Green mowers (riding mowers - they work and people like them). They work well anywhere but the greens of a golf course. Chad mentioned Direct Pay re Lightning. 2 Electric Gators need replacing. The electric backpack blowers have been heavily invested in but they are expensive, heavy and don't last long. They are also still quite loud (commercial grade rated at 96 decibels). People more happy with string chargers.

3.3. Discussion of alternative landscaping options and city planning codes.

3.4. Review of Policy options document

3.4.1. Commercial vs Residential scope

3.4.2. Commercial ahead of Residential

3.4.3. Incentives first to Commercial

3.4.4. More powerful equipment pushed out later

3.4.5. Discussion of impacts on businesses in Ashland

3.4.6. Discussion of a phase in versus all once action Discussion of timing

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Work Session Minutes

August 28, 2024, 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
51 Winburn Wy, Ashland, OR 97520

1. Call to Order 3:00

2. Attendance

- a. **COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Gary Shaff, Mark Morrison, Sidney Brown, Bryan Sohl
- b. **CITY COUNCIL:** none
- c. **STAFF:** Chad Woodward
- d. **OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Dylan Dahle
- e. **Invited Guest:** none in attendance
- f. **Others:** Dave Kahn

3. Open Discussion – Urban Land Use and Transportation.

- a. Gary – introduced topic of sorting out implementation ideas for ULUT of CEAP.
 - i. Reduce VMT as a goal doesn't think we are making much headway
- b. Exercise on Implementation Strategies
- c. Discussion of the 21 strategies concepts of modifying land use CEPAC has the responsibility to implement the CEAP
- d. Discussion of the need for land use policies to meet climate goals
- e. Discussion of how much is too much to bite off
- f. Mention of aesthetics from changes and impact on Ashland's allure
- g. Discussion of repercussions of implementation options

4. Discussion of next work session meeting topics

- a. 9/11 No Byran,
- b. 9/25 ULUT if no open house for Small Engine
- c. 10/9 No – Gary Bryan
- d. 10/23 & 11/13 – CEPAC 2025 work planning
- e. 11/27 Skip
- f. 12/11
- g. 12/25 Skip