

Climate and Environment Policy Advisory Committee (CEPAC)

Draft Minutes

October 10, 2024, 4:00-6:00PM

51 Winburn Wy. Ashland, OR 97520

COMMITTEE MEMBERS-

PRESENT: Kip Barrett, Kiera Reitz, Bryan Sohl, Colin Bishopp, Sidney Brown, Mark Morrison, Eric Ahnmark, Sharon Dohrmann, Richard Barth,

OPEN POSITIONS: Two

ABSENT: Piper Banks, Cat Gould, Gary Shaff, Bryan Sohl

CITY COUNCIL: Bob Kaplan and Jeff Dahle

STAFF: Chad Woodward

1. **Call to Order at 4:00.**
2. **Consent Agenda** Minutes- Approved. Motion to approve made by Brown. Seconded by Barrett. Approved unanimously.
3. **Public Forum- Restricted to non-agenda items**
 - 3.1. **Ashland Climate Collaborative-** advocating in favor of city funds being used in support of Ashland's most vulnerable residences. Focusing on renters. Wants to extend their expertise to the city on similar towns of their size's successful retrofit programs.
4. **Updates/Announcements**
 - 4.1. Council Update –
 - 4.1.1. Jeff Dahle- Looking at assisting small businesses on their energy efficiency. Motion made for council to come back with a plan to disperse funds by the end of the biennium.
 - 4.1.2. Bob Kaplan- RESP loan update- funds still tied up in the legal stage. Ideally this will pass within the next month. Electric masterplan discussion with Tom McBartlett and Stoddard Power regarding resilience of the utility. Recommendations made to further strengthen the system through equipment upgrades. Climate investment budget established in 2023 to serve 2024-2025 biennium. Awaiting council direction to disperse funds. 4 items suggested by City Manager- EV Charger voltage tester to ensure non-functioning chargers are not being pre-maturely replaced, greenhouse gas inventory update, support roll out of RESP Loan rollout to ensure city can implement funds being available, roll funds back into electric ending fund balance to lower electric rates in the future.
 - 4.2. Staff Update –
 - 4.2.1. Chad Woodward
 - 4.2.1.1. RESP Loan first impressions- landlord program available statewide; recently received a local administrator. 55 original line items in the CEAP. Discussed power point presentation CEAP draft report.
 - 4.3. Chair Update –
 - 4.3.1. Mark Morrison- Attended Southern Oregon Sustainability Summit. Opportunities for collaboration with different local organizations. Ashland School District (ASD) eager for community involvement. Upcoming work study session.
 - 4.4. Other Committee Members Update-
 - 4.4.1. Recology- Eric Ahnmark- Ashland to be first local municipality to launch household battery recycling program. Customers drop off location at Valley View Transfer Station to begin shortly and advertisements are ongoing to increase public awareness.
 - 4.4.2. Housing Committee- Sidney Brown- No discussion of equity from any of the land use consultants. Major concern from committee members. Equity needs to be considered in CFA's moving forward. Ensure displacement isn't a result of CFA designations.
5. **Old Business**

- 5.1. Climate Friendly Areas – Sharon Dohrman- Shaff in support of downtown district being the CFA focus. He’s requesting CEPAC’s input on making a recommendation to utilize downtown instead of the other two options, as the CFA area of focus.
- 5.2. Small Engine update- Brown discussed business meeting. Received public input from business owners who have transitioned to Electric equipment. Will be continuing conversations to return with recommendations for the CEPAC.
6. **New Business**
 - 6.1. Work Plan Preliminary talk- Identified top priorities for 2025 and secondary focus areas. Discussed each member’s involvement and areas of interest. Discussed how to increase public knowledge and non-profit groups’ involvement. The work meeting on 10/23 will focus on work planning.
7. **Composting- review and discussion of presentation**
 - 7.1. Rogue Produce- City requires legitimate franchise agreement to pick up waste of any kind. Recology is the only company within city limits that has those rights. Pilot program being developed. Ahnmark requested CEPAC withhold a recommendation to council, and honor Recology’s franchise agreement, to allow them to work alongside the City Manager and City Attorney to develop a program. Main problem that needs to be addressed is how to transport collected compost.
8. **Adjourn-6:00 PM**

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Work Session Minutes

October 23, 2024, 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
51 Winburn Way, Ashland, OR 97520

1. **Call to Order 3:00**
2. **Attendance**
 - 2.1. **COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Mark Morrison, Sidney Brown, Bryan Sohl, Eric Ahnmark, Kip Barrett, Rick Barth
 - 2.2. **CITY COUNCIL:** N/A
 - 2.3. **STAFF:** Chad Woodward
 - 2.4. **OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** N/A
3. **Discussion of 2025 Workplan**
 - 3.1. Review of 2024 Work plan in brief, then a more detailed review of the natural gas ordinance work and the transportation work. Bryan ran through the work items from the 2024 plan.
 - 3.2. Detailed presentation and review of feedback on workplan priorities: who are we, what do we do, how do we work with others, along with conversation of what to present to entire CEPAC. Discussion of weighing in items that impact climate should be the focus and avoid non-climate related policies.
 - 3.3. Bryan to consolidate his notes to distribute.
4. **Adjourned 5:00**