



MINUTES

City of Flagstaff Sustainability Commission

Wednesday, June 6, 2018

4:00 – 6:00 pm

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL

211 West Aspen Avenue, Flagstaff, Arizona

A quorum of the Flagstaff City Council may be in attendance of the Sustainability Commission meeting.



In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact 928-213-2100. Notification at least 48 hours in advance will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements.

CALL TO ORDER

COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Brian Petersen, Chair

Eli Chamberlain

Dara Marks Marino

David McCain

Amanda Ulmer

Kevin White

STAFF LIAISON:

Nicole Antonopoulos, Sustainability Manager

1. **Call to Order**

Vice Chair McCain called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

2. **Roll Call**

Commissioners Marks-Marino, McCain, Chamberlain, and White were present for roll call. Chair Peterson was present via telephone. Commissioner Ulmer was not.

3. **Public Participation**

At this time, any member of the public may address the Commission on any subject that is not scheduled before the Commission on that day. The Arizona Open Meeting Law prohibits the Commission from discussing or taking action on an item which is not listed on the prepared agenda. Commission members may, however, respond to criticism made by those addressing the Commission, ask staff to review a matter, or ask that a matter be placed on a future 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 participation.

4. **Approval of Minutes**

A. May 21, 2018

Vice Chair McCain had a several edits to be made to the May 21, 2018 minutes. Mr. Salgado, note-taker, received Vice Chair McCain's notes. Following the edits Commissioner Dara motioned that the May 21, 2018 minutes be approved. Vice Chair Chamberlin seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

5. Business

A. Climate Action and Adaptation Plan Update (100 minutes) – Jenny Niemann

Requested Action: Discussion

Jenny Niemann, Climate and Energy Specialist, led the discussion of the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan. Ms. Niemann thanked the commission for the feedback from the previous week. She reminded the commission that this is an evolving plan, meaning that their feedback as well as other stakeholder feedback will influence the plan now until in approval by the City Council.

Ms. Niemann reviewed the timeline; next Friday there will be a conceptual draft for the City Council to review, July and August will include public comment, September will be for stakeholders' final edits, and City council approval of the plan will happen in October.

The commission reviewed four focus areas including; transportation and land, waste and consumption, public health and emergency services, and economic prosperity and recreation. Each commission member was given handouts that included information about each focus area with corresponding goals, strategies, and actions. Ms. Niemann mentioned that there is more information on actions than what is presented but they are focusing on goals and strategies versus actions today. Jenny asked for feedback from the commission.

Transportation and land use was discussed first. Commissioner Marks-Marino said she would like to see a goal to reduce vehicle miles traveled that is quantifiable. The commission discussed what is defined as vehicle miles traveled. Jenny informed everyone that there will be targets listed for each goal but the plan is not there yet. Commissioner Marks-Marino suggests a sub goal. Ms. Niemann said that the plan will not have the capacity to contain any sub goals. Commissioner White stated that goal two seems hard to measure. Ms. Niemann explained that you can measure commute trips through the census and that Flagstaff has its own surveys also. Vice Chair McCain requested clarification on how to measure commute trips and what targets for this goal would be. Ms. Antonopoulos and Commissioner Chamberlin discussed how telecommuting and alternating work schedules could help meet this goal. Ms. Antonopoulos also stated that an early release tiered system during inclement weather will prevent large clusters of people leaving work at the same time. Chair Petersen informed the group that some of these goals will not be achieved because State policies prevent them and she cited the infill goals within the Regional Plan. Chair Petersen suggested that there is a new goal to address the Regional Plan as well as state policies. The group discussed how to create and achieve such a goal. The commission agreed that the Regional Plan needs to align with the climate action plan. Chair Petersen stated that the climate plan could set the stage for updating

the regional plan. Ms. Niemann and Vice Chair McCain discussed what the implementation process for the plan will look like and how the budget will help address these goals. Chair Petersen suggested a strategy that includes educating the public about density and why it will be beneficial for the community. He suggested that the City fund this prior to the regional plan updates. The commission discussed an analysis for current and potential future demand for housing/infill asking: “What would it look like to have five density proposals?” with the understanding that this information would lead to knowledge of opportunities for increased density in Flagstaff.

The commission moved on to strategy discussion for transportation and land use focus area. Commissioner Marks-Marino edited “downtown areas” to “mixed use areas” in strategy two. Commissioner Marks-Marino strongly encouraged a public transportation route between Flagstaff and Phoenix to help with traffic on I-17. Ms. Neimann asked the group, “Can we promote Flagstaff as a place where you do not need a car?” Chair Petersen suggested privileging multi-modal transportation so that we can meet the goal. Commissioner White added that winter does present challenges to walking and biking so improving winter infrastructure for these modes of transport would be important. The discussion moved on to charging stations and whether or not they should be on renewables and it was suggested that the public should be educated on the benefits of the renewable or low emitting electricity for charging stations. Chair Petersen suggested that there should be peer to peer rideshare network as an action.

The discussion moved to waste and consumption’s focus area goals. The commission made no edits to the goals. Ms. Neimann stated that there were five strategies to discuss for this focus area. Chair suggested that strategies should directly correlate with the goals. He stated that this will help the community be able to directly link the strategy to the goals. Vice Chair McCain suggested creating a key system next to each strategy to show which goal it correlates with.

Ms. Niemann moved to public health, services, facilities and safety focus area goals. The commission made no edits to the goals. Under the strategies, Vice Chair McCain started the discussion by asking what rolling coal was. Ms. Neimann reported that rolling coal is a modification to trucks that creates large clouds of black smoke from the exhaust pipe. Commissioner White suggested more specific study on how the changing ecosystem will affect health hazards and natural disaster emergency services. Commissioner White recommended funding for these studies to be more specific than current vulnerability assessments.

The final focus area discussed was economic prosperity and recreation. Commissioner Marks-Marino made an edit to goal one, “support the diversification of Flagstaff’s economy including the creation of renewable energy and energy efficiency jobs, installation and manufacturing as well as high tech industry”. She stated that this goal gets away from just renewable jobs but allows for developing new jobs similar to Silicon Valley. Commissioner White suggested privileging co-ops as a goal. He stated that it will improve local resiliency and meet community needs rather than community wants. Ms. Niemann cautioned the commission about the City not being able to direct privilege businesses and added that they can create an incubator for co-ops similar to incubators for local

businesses. Commissioner White said he wants the costs and benefits of climate action/adaptation to be equitably distributed among the community as a goal. Commissioner White recommended a strategy encouraging Flagstaff to strive to be a model ecological city. Commissioner Chamberlain stated the need for a strategy for the fourth goal. Commissioner Marks-Marino suggested coordinating with the economic development division to encourage high tech clean energy to set up shop in Flagstaff.

Ms. Niemann concluded her presentation with future deadlines for the climate plan. There will be a series of open houses and community engagement. Ms. Niemann said she is open to receiving the commission's feedback at any time. She reported that the second draft for public comment will happen in September. Ms. Niemann would like meetings set up in July for commissioners to provide additional feedback. Commissioner Chamberlin suggested that the commission continues to read through the climate plan and add the climate plan as agenda items for July and August. The commission decided that this is a very important item to discuss and would like to continue discussion until the plan is accepted by City Council.

B. Meeting Schedule (5 minutes) – All

Requested Action: Discussion

Ms. Antonopoulos reported that the City Clerk's office will not be as flexible in the future to allow commissions to change their meeting dates. The City Clerk's office suggests that a new time be made if meeting continue to be moved or deleted because of commission absences. The commission decided to remain on the fourth Wednesday of every month. The next two meetings will be July 26th and August 23rd, 2018.

6. To and From (5 Minutes) – All

Ms. Antonopoulos asked the commissioners to inform their circles that plastic recycling in Flagstaff has dramatically changed. Please refer to the website: www.recyclebycity.com/flagstaff

Ms. Antonopoulos informed the commissioners that the Sustainability Program is offering two full time AmeriCorps positions; one in open space and one in climate and energy.

7. Future Agenda Items (5 Minutes) – All

A. Climate Action and Adaptation Plan

B. Regional Plan

C. Community Agriculture

D. Animal Keeping Code Updates

E. City of Flagstaff Open Spaces Program

F. Local economies

8. Adjournment

Vice Chair McCain adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

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.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2018.
