

**SUSTAINABILITY AND ENERGY ACTION TASKFORCE**  
**Meeting Minutes – April 5, 2022, at 3:30 PM**  
**Council Chambers**

**Member Attendance:**

Robert Allen - *Present*  
David Bartlett – *Present*  
Josh Berger – *Present*  
Tom Bradbeer **Co-Vice Chair** – *Present*  
Karen Chase – *Absent*  
Ethan Nelson **Co-Vice Chair** – *Present*  
Jan O’Hara – **Chair** - *Absent*  
Matthew Rosen – *Present*  
Dorothy Swain – *Present*  
Arlo Todd - *Absent*

**City Staff/Council Liaisons:**

Vanessa Ogier (Councilor Liaison) – *Absent*  
Jason Canady (City Liaison) – *Present*  
Kyrriha Sevco (City Public Works) – *Present*

**Guests:**

Gary Brelinski  
(Water Restoration Plant, Superintendent)  
John Walker  
(Water Restoration Plant, Lead Operator)

**1. Roll Call/Introductions:**

**2. Public Comment:** None

**3. Taskforce Member Comments/Information:**

- a. Member Rosen shared a webinar put on by Rocky Mountain Institute on Measurement of Greenhouse Gas Emissions for cities. There are possible resources for the taskforce. He will continue to review for applicable resources and post links on SharePoint. Co-Vice Chair Nelson and member Allen are still having difficulties accessing SharePoint. Co-Vice Chair Bradbeer requested to develop a more detailed folder organization system in SharePoint.
- b. Meeting day (added at the meeting) – Co-Vice Chair Bradbeer opened the discussion of conflicts with member schedules. Thursday appears to be a good day for members however Councilor Ogier would only be able to attend remotely on occasion. Member Swain confirmed her teaching conflict will end in June and resume in September which opens the possibility of meeting on Wednesdays during the summer. Second or fourth Wednesdays would be best to avoid Council meeting conflicts. The meeting date will remain the same for May. This topic was requested to be added to next month’s agenda.
- c. Member Rosen reached out to True South Solar regarding being a part of the taskforce and had submitted an application but had not heard back from the City. Jason will follow up.
- d. Co-Vice Chair Bradbeer shared SOCAN is presenting a webinar on April 28, from 7-8:30 pm on the topic of the Future of Natural Gas.

**4. Approval of Minutes:**

**MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES**

**Member Rosen moved, and Member Swain seconded the motion to approve the March 1, 2022, meeting minutes. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Co-Vice Chairs Bradbeer and Nelson, Members Allen, Bartlett, Berger, Swain, and Rosen.**

**“NAYS”: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Members Chase, O’Hara, and Todd.**

**The motion passed.**

## **5. Action Items:**

- a. Discussion of creating an energy sustainability plan – How do we get there, posed by Co-Vice Chair Bradbeer. Member Allen offered his expertise on this and his experience. Member Allen reminded the taskforce that it all boils down to return on investment (ROI). Member Allen will share materials. Member Swain mentioned not setting anything in stone before the RARE AmeriCore participant gets here. They might have different ideas than the taskforce.
- b. Member Berger asked the taskforce if they could define or identify what sustainability means to the City of Grants Pass as well as energy efficiency. Co-Vice Chair Bradbeer requested this be added to the May agenda.
- c. Selection of an RCC member for Council consideration – applications from Catherine Vawter and Joshua Gabriel were reviewed and discussed by members.

### **MOTION TO RECOMMEND CATHERINE VAWTER AS RCC MEMBER**

**Member Rosen moved, and Member Bartlett seconded the motion to recommend RCC applicant Catherine Vawter to City Council for the taskforce. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Co-Vice Chairs Bradbeer and Nelson, Members Allen, Bartlett, Berger, and Rosen. “NAYS”: None. Abstain: Member Swain. Absent: Members Chase, O’Hara, and Todd. The motion passed.**

## **6. Matters from Committee Members and Staff -**

- a) Water Restoration Plant Tour – by Gary Brelinski, Superintendent, and John Walker, Lead Operations. Questions asked and answered by taskforce members.
- b) Water Filtration Plant Tour – Jason will add materials to SharePoint regarding the current treatment plant and where we are going with the new plant.
- c) LED lights project was acknowledged by Co-Vice Chair Bradbeer as an amazing project.
- d) \$12 million dollar grant opportunity due by June 10, was discussed by the taskforce. The deadline is right around the corner so completing the other half of the solar installation at Public Safety might be a good project for the grant. Member Berger suggested we engage a solar contractor to see if they are familiar with the grant. Member Rosen will email grant folks regarding the application.

## **7. Future Agenda Building for Next Meeting:**

- a) Water Filtration Plant Tour
- b) Member Sustainability means to me
- c) Energy Sustainability plan/road map
- d) Meeting day changes
- e) Review Solar Member applications

## **8. Adjourned at 4:25 PM (Tour followed the regular meeting.)**

## **9. Next Meeting: May 3, 2022, at the Water Filtration Plant**

*Minutes prepared by Wendy Higgins, City Public Works Department.*