

SUSTAINABILITY AND ENERGY ACTION TASKFORCE
Meeting Minutes – July 13, 2022, at 4:17 PM
Police Department

Member Attendance:

Robert Allen
David Bartlett – Absent
Josh Berger – Absent
Emily Berlant – Arrived 4:25
Tom Bradbeer, **Co-Vice Chair**
Karen Chase – Absent
Clair Highfield – Absent
Ethan Nelson, **Co-Vice Chair - Absent**
Jan O’Hara, **Chair**
Matthew Rosen
Dorothy Swain
Arlo Todd – Virtual
Catherine Vawter

City Staff/Council Liaisons:

Vanessa Ogier (Councilor Liaison)
Jason Canady (City Liaison)
Kyrriha Sevco (City Public Works)
Wendy Higgins (City Public Works Minute Taker)

Guests:

Warren Hensman, Police Chief

1. **Roll Call/Introductions:** at 4:17 pm
2. **Public Comment:** Diana Thornton, a member of the public and new to Jackson/Josephine County introduced herself. She lives in Rogue River and works for Josephine County and is very interested in learning more about the Taskforce.
3. **Taskforce Member Once-A-Round:**
 - a. Each member briefly recaps related conversations, news, research, and events they would like to share.
 - Chair O’Hara – checked in with several members regarding the way meetings are run. Co-Vice Chair Nelson is out of town this month and next. He is researching battery storage, and innovation/pollution. He will present his findings in the fall or later. Introduced a matrix for summarizing existing energy plans, it is on SharePoint. Members suggested adding columns for monitoring, what metrics are being captured, and municipal operations. She invited everyone to pick a plan to review.
 - Member Todd – attended via TEAMS for the first time. He introduced himself, described his job with the Medford Water Commission, and put in his resignation. He will continue to attend virtually until his replacement is secured to ensure a quorum. He is also available to the Taskforce in the future if needed.
 - Member Rosen – has reviewed information on community solar projects; agreed to review the City of Eugene’s plan and he offered to review documents Member Bradbeer shared.
 - Member Bradbeer – appreciated the matrix created by Chair O’Hara. Suggested identifying applicable municipal operations options from each plan.
 - Member Allen – agreed to research and do a presentation on NetZero Wastewater Treatment Plant. He discussed multiple sustainable

practices, noting we have seen opportunities during City facility tours (lighting, window screens, capturing methane).

- Member Vawter asked if a map showing the City's properties is available.
- Member Swain – Southern Oregon Climate Action Now (SOCAN) attended a presentation from Land Conservation and Development Commission regarding new rules that are being developed for climate-friendly and equitable communities. See below her notes.
- Member Berlant – agreed to follow up with the City of Talent on their progress in meeting their plan goals.

4. Approval of Minutes:

MOTION TO APPROVE MAY MINUTES

Member Rosen moved, and Co-Vice Chair Bradbeer seconded the motion to approve the May 3, 2022, meeting minutes. The vote resulted as follows: "AYES": Chair O'Hara, Co-Vice Chair Bradbeer, Members Allen, Todd, Rosen, Swain, and Vawter. "NAYS": None. Abstain: None. Absent: Members Bartlett, Berger, Berlant, Chase, Nelson, and Highfield. The motion passed.

MOTION TO APPROVE JUNE MINUTES

Co-Vice Chair Bradbeer moved, and Member Rosen seconded the motion to approve the June 7, 2022, meeting minutes. The vote resulted as follows: "AYES": Chair O'Hara, Co-Vice Chair Bradbeer, Members Allen, Todd, Rosen, Swain, and Vawter. "NAYS": None. Abstain: None. Absent: Co-Vice Chair Chase, Members Bartlett, Berger, Berlant, and Highfield. The motion passed.

5. Action Items:

- a. Road Map Creation – shared information sources to help develop the plan. Postponed due to time constraints.
- b. Member Swain – shared information from the Land Conservation and Development Commission presentation by Cody Meyer. The State of Oregon has set goals to reduce climate pollution by 75% by the year 2050. We are off track. Transportation pollution has increased. This was about rulemaking; rules are different than laws. The rules target areas greater than 50,000 population. These apply to the City of Grants Pass as part of the middle Rogue area. There is a strong focus on reducing driving by bringing land uses closer together, increasing walkability, mixing land uses, and giving residents more choices to take public transportation, walk, or bike. Also, on preparing for an electric vehicle future.
- c. Member Berlant – shared insightful information on her experience with the creation of the Talent Clean Energy Action plan. Member Berlant also explained how RARE members assisted in the project along with RogueClimate.org. Questions were asked and answered.

6. Matters from Committee Members and Staff:

- a. Police Station Tour – provided by Chief Warren Hensman, questions were asked and answered. The tour took place first to ensure a quorum for the meeting.

- b. Jason – reviewed quorum rules with the Taskforce with a reminder from Wendy to please respond timely to the meeting reminder email with your attendance to ensure a quorum.
- c. Kyrrha – provided an update on the AmeriCorps RARE member. Allegra Starr will be joining us on September 12. Housing has been secured for Allegra and the other member for their 11-month term. The City will be receiving a grant of \$5,000 which will reduce the City’s financial portion for the RARE member.

7. Agenda Building for Future Meetings:

- a. Energy Trust of Oregon – at the August meeting, a 1.5-hour presentation/discussion, no tour during this meeting.

8. Meeting adjourned at 5:32 PM

9. Next Meeting: August 10, 2022, at City Hall in Council Chambers

Minutes prepared by Wendy Higgins, City Public Works Department.