



SUSTAINABILITY BOARD

Minutes, March 21, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm by Chair Valerie Guzman

ATTENDANCE

Present: Valerie Guzman, Travis Holleman, Jimmy Mann, Chris Rasnic, Karen Reynolds, Bert Singletary

Also Present: Eric Bittner, Sarah Cook, Bill Harpel, Jennifer Letourneau, Wes Powell, David Smith, Carlye Sommers, Jeff Tyndall

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Mann moved that the February 23, 2022 minutes be adopted. Mr. Holleman seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Rasnic made a motion to move New Business to the beginning of the agenda. Mr. Holleman seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

- a) [RPC Comprehensive Plan](#) - *RPC*
Sarah Cook and Jeff Tyndall gave a presentation on the RPC Comprehensive Plan linked above.
- b) Parks & Rec Sustainability Efforts - *Jennifer Letourneau*
Jennifer Letourneau gave a presentation on sustainability efforts being made by Parks and recreation.
- c) Trees - *Katherine Killebrew*
Wes Powell reported in Katherine Killebrew's absence. He gave an update on the Tree Board K-12 art contest and an update on the replacement of trees in the downtown area and the Arbor Day tree distribution.

4) TECHNICAL ADVISORS DISCUSSION

Ms. Reynolds said she would like for the advisors of the board to have a more robust role. She would like to see them at the table and not just be advisors. Ms. Guzman explained that the Mayor decides who serves on the board. Ms. Reynolds said her thought wasn't to have them vote. Ms. Guzman understands that and explained the role of the technical advisors is to come and report to the board as needed. It's important to keep the agenda as it is to stay on task and get things accomplished without adding too much to each agenda.

Ms. Reynolds also asked about adding a student to the board. Ms. Guzman explained they have to be a certain age as members of the board could be held legally responsible for any decisions made. This is why they are invited to attend and can ask to be placed on the agenda or speak during public comment. Ms. Reynolds clarified to Ms. Guzman and Mr. Bitter that she just wanted them as an advisor but it was reiterated that students are not of legal age, and best to just have them ask to be placed on the agenda to give an update or speak during public comment.

5) APSU UPDATES

Ms. Heron was not present

6) COMMITTEE ACTION SUBCOMMITTEES

The board reviewed the subcommittee list linked above. Ms. Guzman suggested the board pick one committee and start moving forward so the board can have some movement and start accomplishing things. Mr. Mann and Ms. Reynolds like the idea of moving forward with three. Mr. Holleman said he would prefer the board members make recommendations to the board for action vs. subcommittees. Ms. Guzman said the board can do both. Mr. Mann asked about minutes for the subcommittees. Mr. Bittner said minutes would be required.

The Board then chose subcommittees for the board to consider:

Sustainable Living Subcommittee

Ms. Reynolds motioned for the board to consider Sustainable Living as a subcommittee of the Sustainability Board. Mr. Mann seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken. The motion passed

Waste Reduction Subcommittee

Discussion for Waste Reduction was that this is work already being done by Carly and she can instead give a regular update to the board. This can also be included as part of the certain process. This item failed for a lack of a motion.

Building & Construction Subcommittee

Mr. Mann motioned for the board to consider Building and Construction as a subcommittee. Mr. Singletary seconded the motion A voice vote was taken. The motion passed.

7) OLD BUSINESS

a) Current Residential & Commercial Energy Codes

Ms. Reynolds said she would really like the board to start working on an [ordinance to update the Building Code with regards to IECC](#). Ms. Guzman asked that everyone take the time to review the linked ordinance so it can be placed on the agenda for the next meeting to discuss because the attachment was not placed on the agenda and so a vote cannot be taken. Mr. David Smith did share some concerns regarding updating the building code to include an increase in home price on an average of 13%. He also said he doesn't have the staff to make the additional inspections that will be needed. He also said that the state pulled this out of the code because the increase in cost would be so impactful. Mr. Singletary said the goal is to give citizens who desire to purchase a home the opportunity and they are almost priced out of the market because of increased costs for materials, fuel, etc. And what would we improve right now by doing this and is there something else we should be focusing on. Mr. Mann asked about it being imposed on commercial instead of residential. Ms. Guzman again suggested that everyone read the attachment and be ready to discuss at the next meeting because of the potential impact - let's make sure we are impactful the right way. Ms. Reynolds said that continuing to kick the can down the road is not the answer and that supply costs going up is a good reason to do it now before they increase further. And being the fastest growing, why would we not want to build sustainable homes now. Ms. Guzman reminded everyone this is not a debatable motion and this would be put back on next month's agenda.

8) PUBLIC COMMENT *(allows 3 persons; 5 minutes each)*

There were no public comments

8) ADJOURNMENT *Chair Valerie Guzman*

Mr. Mann motioned for adjournment. Mr. Holleman seconded. A voice vote was taken. The motion to adjourn passed and the meeting was adjourned at 4:13 pm.

Adopted: March 21, 2022