

MINUTES



Climate Protection Action Committee
Monthly Appointee Meeting
Tuesday, June 1, 2021
8:30 a.m.



Members/staff present: Robert Anderson, Mary Pat Baldauf, Penny Delaney Cothran, John Epting, Gretchen Lambert, Zach Laprise, Bob Petrulis, Clint Shealy, Tameria Warren, Samantha Yager, Lori Ziolkowski.

Guests: Stacey Washington, SC Energy Office; Robert Gudea, University of SC

Dr. Z. called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

Minutes from the May working meeting were presented. Gretchen Lambert made a motion that they be accepted as presented; Bob Petrulis seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Z. introduced Anthony Artuso to present the Ready for 100 draft framework.

Dr. Artuso explained that there are four basic elements to Ready for 100:

1. Get 100% clean electricity as fast as you can within the budget constraints.
2. Use that clean electricity to power as much as you can: transportation, space heating water heating, even industrial applications.
3. Manage the peak efficiency of your demand
4. Maximize equity and participation so that lower income, disadvantaged communities benefit as early as moderate and high income communities.

Artuso then walked through the summary of recommended actions:

Strategic Recommended Actions

Increase renewable generation

Utility scale solar	Expand access to utility scale solar via VREC's and PPA's Intervene with PSC to enable unrestricted access to VREC's
Distributed solar	Streamline distributed solar permitting & connection processes

Expand access to financing and workforce training

Require solar on new construction

Community solar

Implement expanded community solar program to include utility- and neighborhood-scale projects

Expand electrification

Transportation

Set 2030 targets for 100% electric city, transit, and school fleets

Obtain funding/expand incentives for public and multi-family EV charging facilities

Require EV charging in all new & renovated buildings

Expand shared EV and ebike programs and dedicated lanes

Space and water heating

Increase access to heat pump installation incentives and financing

Require heat pumps in all new construction & major renovations

Manage Demand & Store Supply

Expand access to efficiency, storage & demand mgmt. incentives

Promote Columbia as model smart grid city

Implement demo projects at major campus facilities

Ensure Equity & Broad Participation

Establish Ready for 100 community advisory board and business task force

Develop network of neighborhood clean energy advocates

Implementation

Establish Columbia Clean Energy Authority

Establish Columbia Green Bank

Dr. Artuso then called for questions:

- Bob Petrulis asked how you would use electric transit, garbage trucks and other vehicles to store energy since those vehicles are used during the day, which is when you're also generating solar power. Artuso cited use of vehicles that may be used intermittently, like school buses, which could start the morning at half-charge and charge during school hours when not in use.
- Robert Anderson asked about the costs of implementing the framework. Artuso said that the grant didn't provide for that level of detail, but that the City would have to do one if they are serious about their goals.
- Gretchen Lambert asked if there were other cities that Columbia could learn from. Artuso replied that while there was no city that really lined up with Columbia, he had included model cities and links throughout the framework, such as Philadelphia for the use of a clean energy authority.

Dr. Z announced that Anthony would be back for the group's working meeting later in June. She asked members to review the framework and submit any comments and/or questions for clarification before the meeting.

Petrulis then updated the group on the June 17 Keep Columbia Cool webinar. Plans are coming together well, and several panelists have been invited, including someone to discuss the public health impact of extreme heat. Mary Pat shared a link to the Facebook event and asked members to share this information with their networks.

Dr. Z. then move to cohort updates. She and several others are participating in WRI's renewable procurement cohort, a yearlong process that began last week. Mary Pat is participating in ICLEI's sustainability planning cohort and WRI's mobile EV charging cohort. Dr. Z. is hoping that all Columbia participants in renewable procurement can have a conversation before the next meeting. Mary Pat explained that the ICELI cohort is covering all aspects of creating a sustainability plan and that the mobile EV charging cohort was being split into two sections: one for "101" cities like Columbia; the other for cities who have piloted mobile charging.

Dr. Z. then recognized Bob Petrulis, who discussed the formation of a Communications Planning Committee to create a communications plan and short term goals. Anyone who wants to serve or nominate a colleague to serve should contact Bob.

In staff reports, Robert Anderson updated members that Dominion is still working on the LED light contract; he'll update the group when it is complete. Once the project begins, it will likely take a year or two to complete.

Samantha Yager reported that some recycling market prices are bouncing back, but that things are still fairly consistent with the activity of the past year.

Clint Shealy reported that he had a fruitful discussion with Dominion last week. They reported that to close the renewable energy gap by 2030, 500 mw of renewables would need to be added. Since the

City's goal year isn't until 2035, he's asked them to rerun that calculation to see how it might change. Dominion also offered to adjust the City's credit for Lake Murray's hydropower generation, but Clint said that wouldn't reduce emissions, that the City was more interested in additions to the grid. The ball is being advanced slowly, and now the City has a better idea of the magnitude of the challenge.

In new/old business, Dr. Z. noted that there had been no word back from Ashley on whether any non-voting appointee applications had been received or if anything had been scheduled for Council's consideration.

At 10 a.m., the appointees will meet with the advisory members; Mary Pat shared the link in case any guests wanted to join in. The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m.